FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BAHRAIN

GULF STATES EXPECTED TO FORMULATE STAND FOR BAGHDAD MEETING

JN191129Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1015 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 19 October--Political observers here today told GNA that the Gulf area is witnessing political movement on the highest levels aimed at outlining an effective stand on the developments which have taken place in the Arab arena and furthermore drawing up a comprehensive strategy to make a success of the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers and the subsequent summit conference in Baghdad. This conference must end with results capable of protecting the status of the Arab nation and its ability to face the challenges. The conference must also draw up Arab strategy for future Arab work. It must try to keep Egypt inside the Arab ranks and outline a strategic plan for the coming phase, whether in peace or war, for support of the confrontation countries.

GNA has learned that within the next few days Saudi Arabia is expected to carry out a high-level move to coordinate among the different states in the area to crystalize the Gulf countries' concept regarding the future of Arab solidarity. The Saudi move will start with the countries which support the confrontation countries.

It has been learned that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will begin a tour of the Gulf within the next few days to exchange views on the Arab situation.

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS ON TOUR OF JORDAN, LEBANON, SYRIA

LD191336Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today reported to Prince Fahd ibn Abd al-Aziz, regent and crown prince, on the results of his recent tour of Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, and the decisions reached at the foreign ministers conference of the countries participating and supporting the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, which ended on 17 October.

Prince Sa'ud arrived early today in Al-Bahah.

FINANCE MINISTER DENIES REVALUATION OF RIYAL

LD200839Y London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Oct 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Jidda--ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau--Saudi Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl has said that there is absolutely no truth in the report that Saudi Arabia has revalued the riyal.

In an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT the minister said that no such thing has happened and that the new dollar rates which the currency boards announces always vary in accordance with changes in the dollar in relation to the special drawing rights, as well as to the riyal.

He added: It is known that the riyal is linked to the special drawing rights with a margin of plus or minus 7.25. Therefore, the rate at which the Saudi Arabian currency establishment sells dollars to the banks fluctuates within this margin. Had the dollar risen above or dropped below the margin--which has not happened--then we could talk about raising or lowering the dollar rate.

Shaykh Aba al-Khayl said that the riyal is a stable currency which enjoys a high reputation because of our responsible financial policy. We are anxious to maintain the rate of the riyal fixed and we will not allow it to become a reserve currency that can be bought and sold in the international financial markets. This policy is certainly in the interest of the Saudi national economy.

UAE

PRESIDENT ZAYID IBN SULTAN RETURNS FROM SPAIN

JN191?37Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1750 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 19 October--In God's care and attention, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, returned home from Spain this evening at the end of a private visit to Europe which lasted several weeks.

YEMEN--PDRY

YSP, LEBANESE COMMUNIST ACTION ORGANIZATION BEGIN TALKS

LD192000Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] The first round of talks between the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] and the Organization of Communist Action of Lebanon began today. The YSP delegation was led by brother Anis Hasan Yahya, Political Bureau member and Central Committee secretary. The delegation of the Organization of Lebanese Communist Action was led by Muhsin Ibrahim, the organization's secretary general and executive secretary general of the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

Discussions concerned recent developments in the Yemeni, Lebanese and Arab arenas. Comrade Muhsin Ibrahim informed the YSP delegation that he has been instructed by the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to affirm its unity, Arabism and democratic development.

Brother Muhsin Ibrahim and his delegation arrived in Aden at dawn today on a visit to Democratic Yemen of several days. He declared on arrival that he is making this visit at a time when very important and serious Arab developments are taking place. He said these entail an extensive exchange of views between Arab nationalist and progressive forces to define the best ways of confronting the capitulatory solutions for the Arab region. During the interview he granted to the radio reporter, he stressed that a full meeting will take place between the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the brother leaders of the revolution in Democratic Yemen to devise ways by which the Arab progressive forces can counter these capitulatory solutions.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT TOURS, ADDRESSES MILITARY UNITS

JN191459Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has paid a visit to the 3d Armored Brigade. He was welcomed by the brother commander of the brigade, officers and soldiers. President Salih inspected the brigade and delivered a speech in which he said: Brother officers and soldiers of the 3d Armored Brigade: I thank you for your honorable stands in defense of the revolution and the republic. These weapons are in trustworthy hands which are loyal to the people and homeland.

The brother president added that the armored forces and the armed forces have offered many martyrs for preserving this soil since the beginning of the revolution. He said: I reaffirm to you that we will continue to develop this homeland and to see that it is successful in dealing with the agents who want to harm the people's achievements. We should always remain alert. Thank you and peace be upon you.

Afterwards, brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih paid a visit to the air force headquarters. President Salih was welcomed by the air force commander, officers and engineers who briefed him on their daily activities, and on the progress of the modern training courses. The brother president and leader delivered a speech in which he said: Brother officers and personnel of the air force [words indistinct] complete confidence that this mighty weapon is in trustworthy and loyal hands, loyal to God, the homeland and religion and who have taught lesson to the enemies of the revolution and the republic--deviationists who work for foreign countries--which they will never forget. We will teach them a lesson as a result of your cohesion and rallying around a single command. We will defend our 5--year development plan and our development progress. We, as well as our people, are aware of all the corspiracies which were aimed at harming the dignity and achievements of our glorious revolution. Brothers, the revolution will forge ahead and will not be hindered by any agents or deviationists. This is because of your cohesion, loyalty [words indistinct] against these agents and deviationists from the sound course of the revolution. I urge you to exert further efforts and take action to develop our armed forces so they can carry out their required duties.

The brother president and leader then paid a visit to the air defense forces. He was welcomed by officers and the soldiers who briefed him on the progress of the modern training courses. President Salih urged them to double their efforts in the preparation of [words indistinct] to strike at all traitorous and agent hands who want to harm the achievements of the revolution. The noble artillery weapon with its loyalty [words indistinct] can implement the slogan: "The artillery weapon is the god of war."

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ALI REVIEWS PEACE TALKS

NC200926Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0814 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 October--Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, minister of defense and head of the Egyptian delegation to the Washington peace negotiations, has announced that U.S. President Jimmy Carter is personally presenting solutions in order to surmount any obstacles which might appear in the course of the peace negotiations, and that President Carter is directly participating in resolving the points of difference between Egypt and Israel.

In an interview published in today's edition of the newspaper AL-AKHBAR, the defense minister added that the negotiations are following the course charted by the Egyptian delegation ever since it arrived in Washington. The defense minister said the Egyptian delegation is following the course outlined by President Anwar as-Sadat. This course centers on showing a sincere intention to seek peace, preserving Egyptian soil and sovereignty and working to achieve the Palestinian people's rights.

Concerning the divergent Egyptian-Israeli views, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated that essential points are still being discussed by the parties concerned. He added that President Carter is personally participating in providing solutions compatible with making "peace and dignity" a reality for all the peoples of the Middle East.

As for linking the two Camp David agreements, he said: "We do not believe in slogans and we do not discuss formalities. President as-Sadat's initiative and its subsequent developments, up to the Camp David summit and the present talks in Washington, have been concerned with substantial issues and have disregarded formalities. Otherwise, we would have chosen to go to the Geneva conference."

Asked whether the present differences between the two sides center on the type of diplomatic relations which will be established following the Israeli withdrawal, the head of the Egyptian delegation answered that it is evident that normal relations are aimed at implementing the phases of withdrawal and entrenching the basis for peace between the two countries.

Asked whether last Tuesday's meeting between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations and President Carter had helped bring various views closer, Lieutenant General 'Ali said: "At this meeting, there was a review of the subjects on which agreement had been reached. We also reviewed the subjects which were still under discussion and we cannot say how much this meeting has influenced the progress of the discussions."

The following question was posed to the defense minister: It is said that the peace treaty [mu'ahadah] includes the following clauses: a timetable for Israel's withdrawal, the status of the Israeli settlements in Sinai, pinpointing the demilitarized zones and the UN forces' positions, the demarcation of the secure national border, the passage of Israeli ships in the Suez Canal and the establishment of diplomatic and economic relations.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: "Any logical consideration can deduce the elements of the settlement. He added that he had heard some of Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's views on the 1973 October War. He said that Weizman noted the element of surprise used by Egypt and the fierce fighting which had raged during this war. Weizman also commended Egyptian soldiers for their courage.

Ghali, Al-Baz, Ghurbal Statements

NC201006Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 October--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has explained that the nature of the peace negotiations in Washington is one of give and take and of finding the terminology with which to express the agreement of the two sides. Such terminology, Dr Ghali says, will deal with the various points and the attempt to bring views closer.

In an interview published in today's edition of the newspaper AL-AKHBAR, Dr Butrus Ghali, member of the Egyptian delegation to the Washington talks, says: Under international treaties and agreements, the method of solving disputes is always to resort to arbitration committees. These can be three-member or five-member committees. Their task is to iron out any differences which might arise during the implementation of treaty provisions.

Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian Foreign Ministry first under secretary and member of the Egyptian delegation to the peace talks, states that the discussions are forging ahead in accordance with the Egyptian delegation's plan. In a statement to AL-AKHBAR, Dr al-Baz explains that the discussion of document No 1 of the Camp David agreements is aimed at making changes in the status of the West Bank and Gaza. Dr al-Baz adds that these changes will signal the beginning of the process of transition from the status of occupation to the assertion of the Palestinian national character and Palestinian national rule.

In another statement to AL-AKHBAR, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Egyptian ambassador to the United States and member of the Egyptian delegation to the negotiations, says: "We cannot specify the extent of progress. I can say that we have covered extensive ground, but the remaining ground is no less important."

AL-AKHBAR REPORTS DIFFERENCES ON DURATION OF TREATY

NC200951Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0838 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 October--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR today reports that Israel wanted the peace treaty [mu'ahadah] to be of an indefinite duration, but Egypt has omitted this clause from the draft peace treaty.

The paper says that discussions are still underway on the point of "reconsidering the duration of the agreement." The problem is, however, that generally speaking, peace treaties have no set periods. Furthermore, there are several obligations under this treaty which will be met within a specific period, including the obligations to be met within 3 years. However, the obligation to end the state of war will be honored immediately.

The paper adds that there are continuous commitments, such as the commitment to observe peace, respect the border, resolve disputes in specific ways and the Security Council's guarantee of the border.

The paper notes that Egypt has rejected the idea of an indefinite term for this treaty. However, no agreement has been reached on the duration and method of reconsidering the treaty.

Further AL-AKHBAR Report

NC200940Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0841 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 October--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports today that Egypt has overcome Israel's objection to linking the peace treaty with the solution of the Palestinian problem and the West Bank problem. The problem which remains now is to formulate this definition and decide whether it should be included in the preamble of the treaty, within one of its articles or in a separate article.

The paper says that the problem of linkage between the two agreements was the subject of dispute until yesterday because of the Israeli delegation's opposition to this linkage.

The paper says that agreement was reached in the talks to continue the negotiations until solutions are reached to the Palestinian problem. There are references in the articles of the treaty to the fact that the two Camp David framework agreements are part of one thing--the comprehensive settlement.

AL-AKHBAR says agreement was reached on an important principle, which is that the secure borders are the borders which will be established after the total Israeli withdrawal, and what is involved is insuring respect for these borders so that no aggression will take place against them.

The paper points out that the present draft being discussed includes three appendices: a military appendix, the security arrangements appendix and the peace relations appendix.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK LEAVES CAIRO FOR PARIS

NC191018Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Cairo this morning for Paris on the first leg of a tour which will also take him to Britain and the FRG. He will end his tour by visiting Iran.

The radio correspondent has learned that the vice president will convey messages from President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat to French President Giscard d'Estaing, British Prime Minister James Callaghan, FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and his majesty the shah of Iran. The messages pertain to recent developments in the Middle East in the light of the results of the Camp David conference.

To London 20 Oct

NC191546Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] London, 19 October--MENA has learned that Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will arrive in London from Paris tomorrow, Friday, evening for a visit to Britain during which he will meet with British Prime Minister James Callaghan and hand him a message from President Anwar as-Sadat.

The vice president is scheduled to leave London for Bonn on Sunday afternoon.

DELEGATION MEMBER AL-BAZ LEAVES WASHINGTON FOR LONDON

NC200618Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Washington, 20 October--Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian Foreign Ministry under secretary and member of the Egyptian delegation to the peace talks in Washington, left Washington last night for London.

The MENA correspondent in Washington has learned that Dr al-Baz will give Vice President Husni Mubarak, who will arrive in London today, a full report on the progress of the talks taking place in Washington. The visit was decided on in view of the contacts the Egyptian delegation maintains with Cairo several times a day to fully inform President Anwar as-Sadat and government officials of developments.

Dr Usamah al-Baz will return to Washington in 2 days.

NAVAL FORCES COMMANDER ON ROLE OF EGYPTIAN NAVY

NC1917527 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] Alexandria, 19 October--Rear Adm Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad, commander of the naval forces, has affirmed that there is no difference between the role of the naval forces in war and in peace. Their role is always to secure our Mediterranean and Red Sea coasts, which are more than 1,900 kilometers long. He said their task is also to protect our territorial waters, transportation routes and the Suez Canal, which is considered the most important waterway between East and West, and to exploit the wealth of the seabed out to long distances.

Rear Adm Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad said this at a press conference held today at the headquarters of the naval forces command on the occasion of Navy Day. Navy Day coincides with the anniversary of the firing of the first self-guided naval missile on 21 October 1967 and the sinking of the Israeli destroyer Elat.

The commander of the navy explained that these tasks can only be accomplished with naval forces capable of carrying out their missions. Regarding the role of the naval forces on the Arab level, he said that the navy is training elements and officers from fraternal Arab states in the naval college. They will graduate as officers with the same standard with which any Egyptian officer graduates. They are all Arabs, and there is no distinction between an Egyptian and an Arab soldier. He said: In the naval college we have cadets from Kuwait, Bahrain, Sudan, Yemen, Oman and Somalia.

The commander of the navy said: We have begun building small naval vessels, such as "October" launches. Some developments are taking place in the quality of armaments and training to benefit from the best capabilities of these launches. This is in addition to contracts for modern vessels which will join the naval forces soon.

The commander of the navy said that President as-Sadat's decision to diversify the sources of weapons has given the naval forces the opportunity to develop their present units and to introduce modern equipment. He said that there are offers from many European states to provide Egypt with naval equipment. These offers are currently being studied to choose what is suitable for us.

SADDAM HUSAYN PRESS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

JN191209Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 October--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, has emphasized that the grave and pernicious results of the Camp David meeting will not stop the Arab nation's conflict with the Zionist enemy. He added that the Camp David conference had military and political results. The military results are aimed at freezing the Egyptian front without affecting the enemy's objective of expansion from the Nile to the Euphrates. And politically, the results are aimed at imposing capitulation on the Arabs.

Saddam Husayn said that As-Sadat has nominally obtained Sinai, or part of it, but he has given up all of Egypt and turned it into a bridge through which the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism will cross to Africa and the Arab homeland.

This came in a press conference Saddam Husayn held on 17 October. The conference was attended by journalists of the French media. The details of the conference were published here today.

Saddam Husayn said that imperialist circles, particularly the United States, will endeavor to subvert the Baghdad summit conference and to render its resolutions ineffective concerning the outcome of the Camp David meeting.

Dealing with the alternatives that the Arab nation is said to have, the vice chairman pointed out that the nation is not between the alternatives of subservience and adventure. Subservience and adventure are very different and both can be exploited politically and militarily by certain mentalities. He said that the enemies' policies have left us only the alternative of war. The nature of the dispute dictates that all ways and means must be used to achieve objectives with honor, dignity and persistence in adhering to right without fanaticism.

Saddam Husayn said: As Arabs we have a central task and we must avoid transforming peripheral issues into serious ones. He asserted that the Arabs possess land and history and that political differences, regardless of their size and nature, should not affect that land and its history.

On relations with the Syrian Government under the current circumstances, Saddam Husayn said: We will discuss seriously all factors which make Iraq and Syria one arena of struggle, provided there is a reciprocal desire to do so. He added that Iraq, with its military, economic and manpower weight, guarantees the steadfastness of the Syrian front vis-a-vis possible attacks.

Saddam Husayn asserted that an inch of Syria and an inch of Baghdad are the same. He said: Regardless of our views on any regime, Arab sovereignty is the most important thing. He added: It is illogical to have tense and bad relations when our army is fighting alongside its brothers in Syria.

Saddam Husayn stressed that the decision to dispatch the Iraqi Army to Syria aims at strengthening the Syrian front so that it will not collapse before a possible attack by the enemy. Iraq also aims to make all its military, economic and manpower weight a part of Syria's actual depth.

Speaking about the Lebanese situation, Saddam Husayn said that Iraq supports constitutional legitimacy if it tends to unify the Lebanese people and preserve Leganon's territorial integrity and if it provides suitable circumstances on the Arab and Lebanese level for the sons of Lebanon to carry out a democratic dialog to choose advanced formulas expressing the unity of the Lebanese people and Lebanon's sovereignty.

Husayn added that these formulas should be capable of resisting future schemes and conspiracies concocted against Lebanon's unity. The Zionist entity is in the forefront of those concocting such conspiracies for well-known political, social and military purposes. Saddam Husayn stressed that Iraq supports all Arab, Lebanese and international efforts directed toward such a formula. Iraqi participation in supporting the Arab Deterrent Forces would depend upon the request of the authorities concerned. However, so far no one has made such a request to Iraq.

On Iraq's relations with the outside world, Saddam Husayn said that we have our independence, views and friends. The Soviets are our number one friend. It is not our policy to throw ourselves in anyone's lap. We only throw ourselves in the Arab nation's lap.

Saddam Husayn noted that Iraq acts in accordance with standards, reaffirms its sovereignty and respects international norms. He stressed that Iraq will remain a central axis in the area for another 50 years. Iraq will remain strong and influential. Saddam Husayn added that Iraq does not allow its citizens to be rated below any other persons in the world.

Saddam Husayn asserted that all countries that have relations with Iraq do not suffer any burdens from these relations because Iraq is strong and capable of proceeding forward with its own strength and inherent capabilities. Husayn added that Iraq has many alternatives in the field of international relations.

Saddam Husayn expressed satisfaction at all that is being heard about the aim of French policy to be different from that of the United States on the issues of peoples.

On Iraqi-French relations, Saddam Husayn said that various parties have attempted to exploit the incident at the Iraqi Embassy in Paris, which resulted in the death of Iraqi and French citizens, to harm Iraqi-French relations.

Saddam Husayn stressed that Iraq is keen on French relations because Iraq has found in French policy a desire to deal with Third World countries according to a framework different from the one used up to now by some Western countries. Saddam Husayn added that France has not acted toward Iraq in a manner to make it doubt or question declarations made by French officials. He added, however, that relations between France and the Arab world have not been devoid of formulas characteristic of old relations, that is colonialist relations, which Iraq has criticized.

Saddam Husayn, RCC vice chairman, stressed that the RCC is aware of the weight of others. Nevertheless, when dealing with others, Iraq conducts this dealing on the basis that it has the same weight and also on the basis of equality. Saddam Husayn said that Iraq's economic and trade transactions with any country are affected by political relations with that country. He said: Our military purchases do not affect our other purchases.

The information minister directed the press conference. Saddam Husayn's answers outlined the stands of the party and revolution in Iraq toward current Arab issues, the Baghdad summit, Iraqi-French relations and Iraq's international relations.

IRAQI CP OFFICIAL KARIM INTERVIEWED ON PARTY'S STANDS

LD191309Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 Oct 78 p 7 LD

[Undated Interview granted by Fakhri Karim, member of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee, to AS-SIYASAH Baghdad correspondent Mustafa Abu Libdah]

[Excerpts] There are some people who describe the present relations between the Iraqi Communist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party as similar to a marriage relationship in which after 2 years one of the partners discovers that it is not based on love.

I put this brief analogy of the relationship between the Iraqi Communist Party and the Ba'th Party to Fakhri 'Abd al-Karim, member of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee.

He replied: If such an analogy can be drawn, certainly it is not the Communist Party that received this emotional "shock."

Asked whether there will be divorce proceedings between the marriage partners, one of which was "shocked," Karim said: We do not divorce. Our official policy is still based on the principle that the alliance is established on an objective basis and in response to objective conditions on the grounds that it is a revolutionary means to continue and deepen the progressive march and create a positive atmosphere suitable for deepening interaction between all revolutionaries, particularly between Communists and Ba'thists. These foundations have not weakened at present. Rather, they have become more necessary and more insistent than at any time before in view of the escalation of the imperialist-reactionary onslaught aimed at all the progressive regimes, parties and forces in the area. This necessitates deepening the alliance and not the contrary.

Karim added: As far as we are concerned, we still adhere to our principles.

Asked about the Iraqi Communist Party's evaluation of the present situation in the area, Fakhri Karim said: We certainly feel real concern, especially because progressive parties and forces in the area have not moved in the requisite manner and have failed to be equal to the dangers to which the Arab national liberation movement is exposed. The reactionary regimes are seeking to exploit the Arab people's dilemma in order to consolidate their positions and win the progressive forces over to their side. This is happening at a time when the progressive forces must exert all efforts to confront the conspiracy and strengthen the elements preventing the weakening of the struggle against the reactionary forces.

Karim added: What happened at Camp David is yet a new stage in the conspiracy, the prelude to which was laid long ago. This conspiracy does not stop at what has actually been agreed upon but will try to achieve more objectives. Dragging Jordan into it will be the first step. And trying to obtain the blessing of other countries in achieving the ambitions of expansionist and agressive Zionism and consolidating U.S. political, military and economic domination will be the next.

The Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee member went on: Consequently, the Iraqi Communist Party supports any Iraqi initiative that would achieve the common objective of foiling the agreement and confronting the triangular [U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli] line aimed at liquidating the Arab national liberation movement and its achievements and reshaping the situation in the area in favor of the hostile forces.

Karim set out the details of the plan of joint action designed to foil the Camp David agreement in accordance with Iraqi Communist Party views as follows:

1. Consolidating the position and the unity of action of the progressive Arab countries.

2. Any action must seek to identify the enemy and his allies and then work to isolate the forces conniving with enemy plans.

3. Action must lead to giving democratic freedom to the progressive forces and parties striving to thwart the Camp David plans.

4. Strengthening cooperation between progressive parties and forces.

5. Liquidating all manifestations hampering the activities and movements of the progressive Arab parties and forces so as to be able to counter the plan.

6. Exposing the slogans and facades which the forces conniving with the plan are trying to put up, with the aim of making the plan acceptable to the Arab masses and thus reducing the pressure on the Camp David accords.

Concluding his remarks in this regard, Fakhri 'Abd al-Karim, member of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee, said that Iraq's recent action (in calling a summit conference) takes these facts into consideration.

[Question] It has been reported that [Iraqi Communist Party General Secretary] 'Aziz Muhammad is now outside Iraq for good; in other words, he is a "fugitive." It has also been said that 'Abd ar-Razzaq as-Safi was arrested at Baghdad airport on his return from a conference of Arab communist parties in Cyprus in mid-April 1978.

[Answer] This is yet another bit of wrong information that is being wittingly or unwittingly circulated. 'Aziz Muhammad is not receiving treatment in Moscow. 'Abd ar-Razzaq as-Safi is here in Baghdad for good as well.

I told Karim: The basic principles for the supposed action to foil Camp David as proposed by the Iraqi Communist Party contain repeated references to the need to give the progressive parties and forces the opportunity to act freely. This might be understood by some as meaning that the Iraqi Communist Party is not yet acting freely in the manner provided for within the framework of the national front. In fact, there have been rumors that some veteran communists are actively working to establish a new communist party in Iraq.

Karim replied: There is increasing activity on the part of those who left or were expelled from the Iraqi Communist Party. These activities take the form of leaflets attacking the Communist Party and accusing it of being a lackey of the Ba'th Party. The leaflets also blame the party for its alliance with the Ba'th Party.

There is a group which issues leaflets under the name of the Marxist-Leninist Party and another group which publishes a bulletin called "ASH-SHARARAH." There is yet another bulletin issued in the name of Tariq ash-Sha'b--all of which aim to undermine the unity of the Iraqi Communist Party.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS

JN191823Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn received in the Al-Hashimiyah Palace this evening Mr Harold Saunders, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. Mr Saunders briefed his majesty on the results of his talks with His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and his majesty the king's deputy, and senior Saudi officials. Mr Saunders and his majesty reviewed the efforts being made by the U.S. Government to achieve peace in the Middle East. A discussion was also held on the U.S. reply to the questions raised by the Jordanian Government regarding the two Camp David agreements. Agreement was reached to continue contacts between the two sides regarding the various aspects of the efforts being made to establish a just and lasting peace in the area. The meeting was attended by His Excellency Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Palestinians Meet With Saunders

JN200720Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Oct 78 pp 1, 13 JN

[Text] Amman, AR-RA'Y--U.S. envoy Harold Saunders yesterday had talks with a number of Palestinian personalities in Amman about the Camp David agreements to solve the Arab-Israeli dispute. At the outset of the meeting, Saunders expressed the conviction that these agreements can serve as a basis for solving the dispute. He asserted that the agreements were the best the Americans could obtain from Israel. Saunders said: What is required now is the participation of the Palestinians as a negotiating party with Israel to implement the points stipulated in the Camp David agreements related to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. When Anton 'Atallah--supported by others--wondered about the reason for conducting this dialog with Palestinian personalities rather than contacting the PLO, in its capacity as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, Saunders said: The pledges made by Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, to Israel not to recognize the PLO are still fettering the U.S. administration. Nevertheless, he added, the door is still open for a dialog between the PLO and the United States if the PLO recognizes Security Council Resolution 242. When Saunders was told that the Camp David agreements do not meet the minimum of the just Arab demands and are not commensurate with what was stipulated in Security Council Resolution 242, he emphasized the U.S. stand of not recognizing the annexation of Jerusalem to Israel and not recognizing the legitimacy of the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. He said: The Egyptian experience with Sinai could explain what would happen in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip if the Palestinians join the negotiating process. Saunders added that the United States cannot guarantee what the Arabs would obtain and that everything depends on what the Arabs and Israel agree upon. At the end of the talks, several personalities expressed the conviction that none of the Palestinians or the Arabs would be prepared to negotiate with Israel under the current realities, because negotiations, under such circumstances, are like walking into darkness where the results are unknown. Saunders expressed his disappointment over this stand. He reiterated: "This is what is available. You either take or leave it." AR-RA'Y has learned that the personalities who attended the meeting were: Anton 'Atallah, 'Ali az-Zu'bi, 'Ali ad-Dajani, Dr Subhi al-Qasim, Dr 'Afif Kafina, Dr Siri Nasir and 'Umar an-Nabulsi.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS MEETS WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS

NC191420Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Text] His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting at 1310 today, attended by Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss. The meeting lasted until 1415.

After the meeting Prime Minister al-Huss said: A cabinet meeting has been set for Saturday morning. The discussion in today's meeting with his excellency the president dealt with the subjects to be raised at the forthcoming cabinet meeting.

Asked about the date of the new deployment and exchange of elements of the Arab Deterrent Forces, Prime Minister al-Huss said: Very soon.

SALMAN REPORTS SUDAN NOT AGREED TO RENEW FORCES MANDATE

NC191231Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman returned to Beirut at noon today from Khartoum, following a brief visit to the Sudanese capital. During the visit he handed Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri a message from President Ilyas Sarkis, expressing Lebanon's wish that the Sudanese contingent of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon be withdrawn.

After his return, Interior Minister Dr Salman contacted President Sarkis by telephone and conveyed the Sudanese president's reply to the Lebanese message. Dr Salman will call on President Sarkis later to brief him on his discussions in Khartoum.

Minister Salman told the midday journal that Sudan has not agreed to renew the term of its forces in the Arab Deterrent Forces at present. He added that the Sudanese president told him that if the Lebanese Government makes a request for new assistance in the future, he will be prepared to study such a request with an open mind and understanding.

INDEPENDENT PARLIAMENTARY BLOC SUPPORTS RESOLUTIONS

NC191529Y Beirut Domestic Serive in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] The independent parliamentary bloc held a meeting at noon today under Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, in which the resolutions of the Bayt ad-Din conference and the political situation in the country were discussed.

After the meeting Speaker al-As'ad made a statement, in which he said: After the discussion and deliberation, bloc members decided that the resolutions of the Bayt ad-Din foreign ministers conference constitute a concrete solution to the Lebanese crisis. The bloc believes that the various measures mentioned in the conference resolutions, which can restore legitimacy to its proper context and restore to Lebanon and the Lebanese the desire for stability, are complete and inseparable, and the implementation of one cannot take place without the other. The bloc also lays emphasis on the means that the authorities will adopt to put these resolutions into effect and on the period in which this will take place. This period must be short.

Speaker al-As'ad said that it was decided to form a delegation representing the bloc to meet President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Huss to discuss the matter with them.

SAUDI ENVOY ON DEPLOYMENT OF SAUDI FORCES IN BEIRUT

NC201242Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] At 0930 today, President Sark. s met with Saudi Ambassador Ben 'Ali ash-Sha'ir. Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus attended the meeting.

At the end of the meeting Ash-Sha'ir said: To facilitate President Sarkis' task in implementing the urgent phase of the security movements; in response to the wishes of the brother commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces, Col Sami al-Khatib; and to demonstrate the extent of confidence in the definite guarantees and good intentions expressed by some of the senior officials of the Lebanese Front to Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, orders were issued by Saudi Arabia last night to the commander of the Saudi battalion [Katibah] to immediately move the entire battalion early this morning to take up positions at Burj Rizq and Al-Karantinah bridge temporarily, until Saudi efforts with some of the brothers bear positive results.

Ambassador ash-Sha'ir said: I learned before I came to the palace that most of the Saudi forces took up their new positions in both these areas early this morning.

Replying to a question, he said: The brothers in Syria have prepared a good atmosphere for the implementation of the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions in a high positive spirit. We have great hopes that the Lebanese brothers will cooperate in all actions that will achieve the noble goals that everyone is looking forward to for the welfare of this fraternal country.

REPORTAGE ON CHANGES OF ARAB DETERRENT FORCES' POSITIONS

NC191825Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] It was reported this evening that antitank rounds were fired from the direction of Mar Mikhayil-Ash-Shiyah area on the road leading to the Republican Palace in B'abda. The firing continued from 1700 to 1730 today.

There have been reports that the Syrian forces will complete their withdrawal from some positions in Al-Ashrafiyah and from the eastern approaches to the capital before 0600 tomorrow, Friday.

Competent sources have explained that Sudan's intention not to keep its forces with the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon will not change the security plan and that the withdrawals will take place according to the scheduled plan but with a slight modification. This modification provides for the positioning of Saudi forces in the two bridges area and Sudanese forces in Burj Rizq and the surrounding area until other forces are made available to replace the Sudanese forces before their mandate in Lebanon ends. According to reports received this evening, the Syrian withdrawal from the liberated (Al-Muharrarah) areas will take place tomorrow morning.

Clashes in Beirut Area

NC192045Y Voice of Lebanon [clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Text] New clashes occurred a short time ago along the 'Ayn ar-Rumannah-Furn ash-Shubbak line. Flares were fired over the capital. The sound of explosions in the Al-Karantinah and Burj Rizq fronts is being heard. Informed sources say that these explosions are the result of defusing mines which the Syrian forces planted in some areas.

Details of Syrian Withdrawal

NC201129Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Here is a report on the Syrian withdrawal from the eastern approaches of the capital as of 0600 today. Voice of Lebanon Radio reporters took their positions early in the day, watched the movements and provided us with the details as they came. We have broadcast to you some of these details in the morning newscast and during this transmission period, which continues. The operations took place over 3 hours as follows:

At 0615, 26 Saudi military vehicles arrived and waited for some time on the Al-Karantinah bridge between the cold storage building and the car market until the Syrian forces grouped and moved away from the area.

At 0625, an RPG rocket was fired on Sinn al-Fil. The Syrians also fired intensively.

At 0640, the Syrians finished assembling, the handover and takeover of positions began between the Syrians and the Saudis and a Fiat 124 headed toward Burj Hammud. Some rounds were fired in the area between the cold storage building and the bank.

At 0650, Syrian trucks arrived to transport the things looted from the area of the two bridges and the nearby buildings. A Fiat 125 traveled from the Syrian staging area to the old bridge.

At 0656, the arriving Saudi forces split into two groups. One group headed toward the old bridge, while the other proceeded to the Al-Karantinah bridge. A number of Syrians grouped at the police station in preparation for moving away.

At 0659, a blue pickup escorted by the Syrians was seen carrying stolen armchairs.

At 0703, two well-known civilian vehicles were seen escorted by the Syrian deterrent forces. These vehicles proceeded to the cold storage building, where three civilians got out and engaged in a long conversation with the Syrians.

At 0720, a Lebanese internal security military truck, three Saudi trucks and three armored cars took up positions near the police station. Twelve Lebanese security men got out of one of the trucks.

At 0745, three BTR armored cars carrying white objects and other trucks proceeded from near the Bata building and lined up on the bridge. Afterward, 4 civilian cars and 16 Syrian trucks moved at the same time.

At 0815, the Syrians passed near the cold storage building to the bridge through the low corniche toward the Sinn al-Fil bridge. Twenty-six BTR armored cars and tanks left the Al-Badawi area and proceeded toward Sinn al-Fil. Three loaded trucks went out of the area near the bridge, as did 13 trucks from the shell area and 2 military jeeps.

At 0825, the Syrian military presence on the two bridges ended and the Saudis stationed an anti-aircraft gun, an armored car, a jeep equipped with a .50-caliber machinegun and a halftrack in the area of the two bridges.

At 0838, three civilian vehicles crossed the Al-Karantinah bridge toward the Bata building.

At 0850, the Syrian convoy reached (Qasr Nura) in Hurj Thabit.

At 0900, information available stated that 250 to 300 Saudi and Lebanese soldiers and 10 BTR armored cars had taken up positions in the Al-Karantinah area.

Thus, the total number of vehicles that were evacuated with the Syrians from the area of the two bridges is 150 personnel carriers, 11 BTR armored cars and 13 tanks towing missile launchers and field artillery, which our reporters have been unable to count accurately.

It was reported a while ago that there are underground stores in the Opel building in Al-Karantinah in which the Syrians are holding 300 men and women. These people will be released.

Finally, Lebanese security forces have taken measures to block movement on the two bridges of Al-Karantinah and Burj Hammud for 2 hours. This action has been taken to coordinate and organize the stationing of forces on the two bridges. However, movement on Jisr al-Wati in Sinn al-Fil remains prohibited until further notice.

Changes Continue

NC201024Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The Arab Deterrent Forces this morning continued taking the security measures aimed at changing the positions of some forces in the areas of Beirut and in the capital's eastern suburb.

A good atmosphere prevailed while these changes were being made and no noteworthy incidents have occurred.

The Arab Deterrent Forces Command is scheduled to issue a statement on these measures later.

U.S.-SYRIAN CONTACTS ON MIDEAST TALKS REPORTEDLY CONTINUING

NC192246Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2227 GMT 19 Oct 78 NC

[Text] London, 19 October--The London-based newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT today reports that Syria and the United States have agreed to continue their contacts and consultations regarding the U.S. offer to Syria to join the Middle East peace negotiations.

Quoting diplomatic observers, the paper says that a third party, namely Romanian President Ceausescu, is at present exerting efforts to persuade Syria to join the peace talks at a later stage, if necessary.

The paper reports that President Ceausescu sent two letters this week to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and that he is holding continuous contacts with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Quoting what it describes as informed sources, the paper says that the government of President Carter has submitted a detailed plan to President al-Asad to join the peace negotiations at a future stage.

AS-SADAT HARDLINE STANCE IN NEGOTIATIONS 'ACROBATICS'

JN200745Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Oct 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the negotiations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist enemy at the Blair House, under the headline "A Forfeited and Exposed Stand at Blair House," the daily ATH-THAWRAH writes: George Sherman, U.S. spokesman for the Egyptian-Israeli talks, has announced that there is no crisis or impasse between the negotiations. This viewpoint of Sherman was affirmed by a senior source in Israel's delegation who said that the negotiations will be crowned with success.

Two main parties to the Blair House talks thus share the view that the talks are normal and their results are good. This is taken for granted. Meanwhile, the third party tries to delude Arab and international public opinion that it is taking a hardline attitude toward Israel's stand with the aim of assuaging the condemnation of the Arab masses both inside and outside Egypt and also of making the Egyptian side appear to be like the others at the negotiating table. This effort is being made since all of As-Sadat's concessions have weakened the effectiveness of Egypt and robbed it of all the winning cards that were in its hand.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: This acrobatic show of As-Sadat cannot erase the capitulationist course and the stand adopted by the ruler of Egypt, as he himself has supervised the opening of the bridges between Tel Aviv and Cairo and everything that resulted from Camp David. What motives are there for As-Sadat to adopt hard stands in front of America and Israel at the stage he has reached on the path of treason? How can the ruler of Egypt benefit from these stands after what he has done against Egypt and its people?

ATH-THAWRAH concludes by saying: The only logical course after what has happened is for As-Sadat to continue on the road of capitulation to the end. All evidence and indications affirm this fact. Moreover, neither As-Sadat nor his aides will be able to ignore this fact or cover it up, no matter what efforts or political and propaganda moves they make. The Blair House talks will remain a continuation of what was agreed upon at Camp David.

KHADDAM RECEIVES LEBANESE NATIONALIST DELEGATION

JN191557Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 19 October--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this afternoon received a delegation representing the nationalist movement and the Patriotic Front in fraternal Lebanon. The delegation is made up of Kamal Shatila, 'Asim Qansu, 'Abdallah ash-Shahhal, George Sawi, Tawfiq Sultan and Riyad Ra'd. During the meeting a discussion was held on the results of the conference of the Arab foreign ministers of the countries participating in and supporting the Arab Deterrent Forces and on the situation in the Lebanese and Arab areas.

After the meeting, Comrade 'Asim Qansu made a statement to SANA in which he expressed the hope that the Lebanese Government would take appropriate measures to implement the resolutions issued by the Arab foreign ministers conference held in Bayt ad-Din as soon as possible so as to restore to Lebanon its natural role in the operation of steadfastness and construction.

Comrade Qansu added that the majority of the Arab people in Lebanon support the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers, especially after the relations of the Phalanist and Sham'unist militias with the Zionist enemy have become clear to everyone. Comrade Qansu also expressed satisfaction with the large political demonstration held in the Lebanese city of Shtawrah yesterday. He said that this demonstration is one manifestation of the sympathy the Lebanese hold for Arab Syria, which has made sacrifices for the security and stability of Lebanon and for the unity of its people and its territorial integrity.

AMMAN: SYRIA, IRAQ HOLDING CONTACTS TO COORDINATE POLICIES

JN200625Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Syria and Iraq are holding extensive contacts to coordinate their policies in preparation for the convocation of the Arab summit conference, scheduled to be held in Baghdad on 2 November. Diplomats believe that it is likely that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will meet with Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr prior to the convocation of the Arab summit conference.

It was announced in Damascus yesterday that Iraqi envoy Tariq 'Aziz had extensive talks a few days ago with President Hafiz al-Asad.

ARMORED UNIT CONDUCTS EXERCISE SUPPORTED BY AIR FORCE

JN191527Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 19 October--On the instructions of leader President Hafiz al-Asad, one of our armored units has carried out a tactical exercise supported by the air force.

Maj Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and the armed forces and defense minister, arrived at the site of the exercise at the specified time. He was welcomed by senior officers of the command and those directing the exercise. After explaining the objective of the exercise, the chief of operations noted that the unit's combat preparedness had been raised to the maximum the day prior to the exercise. At the specified time and at the beginning of the exercise, the unit was able to carry out a counterattack against the mock enemy. All kinds of weapons and air force support were used in the operation. The unit waged a successful battle against the enemy, surrounding and destroying part of the enemy forces. The unit persued the retreating forces and restored the situation to what it was before the operation. The unit established a line suitable to prevent enemy reserve forces from intervening.

At the end of the tactical exercise, the defense minister conveyed to the courageous fighters the greetings of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. He praised the direction of the exercise and those who supervised its implementation. He requested them to continue their training day and night to maintain the preparedness and combat capability of our armed forces which are the vanguard of the Arab nation and the protector of its holy places.

ALGERIA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON BOUMEDIENE'S VISIT TO USSR

For a Moscow TASS text of the communique issued on the USSR visit of Houari Boumediene, Algerian People's Democratic Republic president and Revolutionary Council chairman, see the Middle East and North Africa section of the 20 October Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

ASH-SHA'B HITS REVOLUTION'S 'ENEMIES' AT HOME AND ABROAD

LD191203Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Oct 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Limits of Tolerance"]

[Text] When in mid-1978 President Boumediene urged the workers and peasants to show the highest standards of vigilance and made his appeal a slogan which all the main forces of the revolution must be concerned to uphold, he was from the vantage point of responsibility, well aware that the Algerian revolution, like all pioneering world revolutions, has enemies both at home and abroad. These enemies are lying in wait for the revolution and their common desire is to undermine its gains, do away with its achievements and change its course in a manner serving their interests.

The reactionary faction at home has been active recently and is being encouraged by the current reactionary tide in the Arab arena that began with As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem. This faction has mobilized every means available to it to hinder our country's progress, sometimes by spreading rumors about the disappearance of this or that official and at other times by waging campaigns of distortion and misrepresentation, such as exploiting the incident when some bakers were punished in the capital last summer for illegally increasing bread prices in order to arouse fear in the private sector that such measures are a prelude to final liquidation, contrary to the provisions of the National Charter.

Although the nature of reaction is the same and the laws that govern the parties to it are similar, regardless of the distances that separate them, at this stage we can nevertheless distinguish two types of enemies:

1. Enemies abroad which are well-known: The reactionary regimes whose mass annihilation of peoples we refuse to support, whether in occupied Palestine or in Western Sahara, and which fear that the Algerian example of development, liberation and improving human standards will be copied by their own people.

These reactionary regimes are supported by the Zionist-imperialist-colonialist quarters which see our revolution as a stumbling block to the implementation of their aggressive plans to plunder the wealth of the Third World and prevent its nations from aspiring to total liberation and freedom.

2. Enemies at home: These are the sources of real danger because they are scattered in various sectors. Some are in the state sector pretending to believe in the revolutionary options in order to avoid suspicion, while in fact their actions are contrary to such options both in form and in content. Some others who have become affluent have turned ungrateful; they don the robe of nationalism only to cast doubt on the national course. Their only motive is hatred of the revolution because it prevented them from becoming rich at the expense of workers and peasants and refused to serve their greed and ambition.

This reactionary faction has misunderstood the concept of public freedoms in a socialist system; it did not consult the National Charter to discover that it has gone too far because the socialist state guarantees all public freedoms provided that such freedoms are not used in order to jeopardize the revolution. Tolerance has limits, and in the future a blind eye can no longer be turned to the actions of some of the reactionary quarters which indulge in spreading rumors and in kindling the spirit of grumbling as a means of filling their leisure time and use every occasion to unleash criticism against the state.

Perhaps it would be useful to remind the daydreamers, the rancorous reactionaries and the opportunists, of a salient fact in the hope that they will learn that the Algerian revolution is not a question of certain people now in power whose mere disappearance will bring the revolution to an end. Rather, this is the revolution of the whole people; its base is strong and solid and its soldiers are counted in millions. Rumor-mongering only serves further cohesion around the revolution and increases their readiness to make sacrifices to protect it and defend its gains.

MAURITANIA

PRESIDENT SALECK MENTIONS CONTACTS WITH POLISARIO

PA191243Y Paris AFP in English 1232 GMT 19 Oct 78 PA

[Excerpt] Nouakchott, Oct, 19 (AFP)--Contacts between Mauritania and POLISARIO have started in a bid for peace in the Western Sahara, Mauritanian Head of State Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck confirmed publicly for the first time yesterday.

Speaking on his return from Tripoli, Lt Col Saleck would not deny or confirm that he personally had met leaders of the Western Sahara liberation movement POLISARIO there.

"No peace is possible in the Western Sahara without contact with all the parties involved, including the POLISARIO Front," he said. "These contacts have started and will continue with the aim of restoring peace to the region."

(Yesterday, the Libyan news agency reported that immediately after Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Lt Col Saleck had finished four hours of talks, Col al-Qadhdhafi had held discussions with POLISARIO leaders).

Lt Col Saleck added that the peace dynamic, started after the overthrow of Mauritanian President Moktar Ould Daddah in July, was "on a good path and our country will pursue it to its end."

Algiers Report

ID192304Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Oct 78 ID

[Text] Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohammed Saleck, Mauritanian head of state, has declared that direct contacts with the POLISARIO will continue with the aim of restoring peace to the region. In a statement on his return from his 24-hour visit to Libya, he said: Peace is essential for the reform operation to which we have committed ourselves. He reiterated that the momentum of peace that began following the overthrow of Ould Daddah is marching along its right course. Our country will continue the momentum until the end of the road.

Receives Moroccan Foreign Minister

LD200856Y Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, head of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of the government, today received Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta, who delivered a message from King Hassan II.

M'hamed Boucetta earlier held a working meeting with Minister [word indistinct] Foreign Affairs Ja'far Mohamed Rida.

Following the meeting, the Moroccan minister said that he discussed with the head of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of the government, current questions and cooperation between the two countries.

MOROCCO

UN REPRESENTATIVE REJECTS ALGERIAN CLAIMS ON SAHARAN ISSUE

LD191332Y Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Rabat, Oct 19, (MAP)--Dr Abedllatif el-Filali, Moroccan ambassador to the United Nations, Tuesday denied Algerian charges that Morocco was to blame for the current conflict in northwestern Africa.

Morocco adheres to the UN and Organization of African Unity (OAU) principles of autodetermination as applied only to colonial powers, El-Filali reminded the assembly. "Morocco did not annex the Sahara. It recuperated its provinces in accord with an international agreement registered at the UN and later confirmed by the General Assembly," added the Moroccan ambassador.

El-Filali rejected the notion of a Saharan people. "The Sahara is a vast region. Why does the Algerian minister isolate only the Moroccan Sahara? Why should inhabitants of Moroccan Sahara be historically and ethnically different from Morocco?" asked he. When France left out the Algerian Sahara when it granted independence, Algeria broke the Evian negotiations, El-Filali said, accusing Bouteflika of double standards. "Algeria has created the POLISARIO and stands heir to the old colonial powers of the Berlin Pact," the Moroccan ambassador added, noting that scores of Algerian soldiers had been taken prisoner at Amgala. He also challenged Bouteflika to prove the existence of a "POLISARIO Front" independence movement prior to 1974, when Spanish-Moroccan negotiations for a peaceful decolonization of Morocco's Saharan provinces began.

The Moroccan ambassador urged Algeria to come to reason, so that a peace settlement could be negotiated rapidly.

MAP CITES AIM OF BOUCETTA'S VISIT TO MAURITANIA

LD191548Y Rabat MAP in English 1237 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Rabat, Oct 19 (MAP)--Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta left here for Nouakchott Thursday, according to Mauritanian embassy sources. Foreign Minister Boucetta's visit, they said, concerns "the routine consultations that occur between the two countries."

Mauritanian President Moustapha Ould Saleck returned last night from talks on the Sahara conflict in Tripoli with Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and it is expected that Foreign Minister Boucella will be told the results of their discussion.

PARTY GROUPING ATTACKS SPANISH PARTY'S RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO

LD190836Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Following the decision by the Spanish Union of the Democratic Center [UCD] to recognize the mercenary group, POLISARIO, the national parties have addressed messages of protest to the UCD denouncing this attitude which is inconsistent with Spanish-Moroccan friendship.

The Executive Bureau of the National Grouping of Independents [the ruling group] has sent the Spanish Party the following message of protest:

The Executive Bureau of the National Grouping of Independents at its meeting on 17 October was informed of the strange and extremist attitude adopted by the UCD over the so-called Sahara issue and of the decision of the Spanish ruling party to assume the onerous responsibility of extending official recognition to the so-called POLISARIO. Thus it is clear the party has succumbed to the pressure and bargaining exerted on it by the Algerian rulers, especially when they seized eight Spanish fishermen who were, as is known, detained in Algerian territory.

The Executive Committee of the National Grouping of Independents believes that if objectivity and goodwill characterized the UCD's understanding of relations between the Moroccan and Spanish Kingdoms, the means of pressure and maneuver practised by Algeria could not, however important they might have been, have led the ruling Spanish party to take such a drastic hostile attitude toward our country. It is an attitude which is not only incompatible with the requisites of good neighborliness but also with the commitments Spain has had to shoulder as a result of the signing of the Madrid treaty which terminated the colonial presence in the southern part of our national soil.

We note with regret that the UCD, which has taken this stance which is completely inconsistent with the spirit of cordiality and friendship, has opted for a course which is characterized by the mentality of neocolonialism and which serves the interests of the Algerian rulers in a conflict of a purely bilateral nature.

In pursuing such a course, the UCD has allowed itself to be involved in an issue about which it more than anyone else knows the inflamatory nature as well as the extent of the tension generated by the Algerian expansionist ambitions with the evident aim of prejudicing the stability of the African Continent and thereby making it possible to impose in the end an imperialist solution. It appears, unfortunately, that the UCD has decided to help the plotters in hatching their conspiracy.

Thus our country finds itself once again facing an alliance inspired by expansionist aims and linked to imperialist maneuvers which seek to compromise our sovereignty and territorial integrity. Without doubt, such maneuvers can in the end bring only disrepute to their authors in Arab and African public quarters.

The National Grouping of Independents cannot but denounce most vigorously, before Spanish and international public opinion, this alliance and its related machinations which are incompatible with the spirit of responsibility and which contradict the policy of friendship and cooperation which has existed between our two countries since Spain ended its colonial responsibility in the southern sector of our national soil. Together we have established this friendship and cooperation within the framework of a total geopolitical view which accords with the supreme interests of our two peoples and the peoples of Africa and Europe who are imbued with the spirit of peace, freedom and democracy.

The National Grouping of Independents would like to point out publicly in such circumstances that the liberation of our Saharan provinces--something which appears to have escaped the attention of the UCD--occured by peaceful means and within negotiations which respected the resolutions of the Security Council and the UN General Assembly and in accordance with international law. It would also like to point out that had it not been for the aggressive and expansionist policy pursued by the Algerian Government, neither the so-called POLISARIO nor the Saharan issue would have existed.

In spite of this regrettable attitude taken by the UCD, the National Grouping of Independents will remain confident that the UCD will in the end reconsider this conduct, which has deeply affected our country, taking into account objectively and honestly--after realizing the true dimensions of the tension generated in the region--the historical and permanent interests of the Moroccan and Spanish peoples.

AL-BAYANE ATTACKS SPANISH-FRENCH TIES OVER SAHARA ISSUE

LD191534Y Rabat MAP in English 1228 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Casablanca, Oct 19 (MAP)--The Moroccan communist daily, AL-BAYANE, accused Thursday that "Spain, by recognizing the POLISARIO Front, is more susceptible to the pressures of France than to the friendship of Rabat".

The Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS) newspaper charged that France, instead of seeking a settlement to the Sahara conflict, is "only trying to protect its interests and sphere of influence in the region."

KING HASSAN RECEIVES SAUDI SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

LD191906Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] King Hassan this morning received 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, and Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister for municipal and rural affairs. Prince Moulay 'Abdallah was present.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL SUDANESE STATEMENT ON CAMP DAVID

JN201223Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 20 October--The presidential office has issued the following statement:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Sudan has studied the Camp David documents in the light of the following considerations:

1. A special and distinguished relation links the two peoples of the Nile Valley, drawing its depth and dimensions from the ties of history and the joint vital interests of the two countries. Neither Sudan nor Egypt has the right to endanger this strong relation or to allow any sudden development to harm what has been decreed by history and what is required in the interests of destiny. The historic ties between Sudan and Egypt make it incumbent on Sudan to fully comprehend Egypt's stands in critical hours and at times of difficult and hard choices.

2. Sudan, without belittling the role of the other fraternal Arab states, fully appreciates the tremendous sacrifices and heavy burdens undertaken by the people and army of Egypt to champion the Arabs. Sudan sees no wisdom in boycotting, isolating or being antagonistic toward Egypt. Such a call will mean only more division and disintegration in the Arab nation. The Arab cause should not be confused by considerations of ideological differences, complications in the struggle among the big powers or secondary regional disputes.

3. Sudan fully supports the efforts being exerted to solve the dispute in the Middle East by peaceful means, by direct negotiations among the concerned parties and on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

There is no doubt that the peace efforts would be more positive and effective if the Arab sides participated in them unanimously and within the framework of Arab accord and solidarity. But the complications of the situation have so far disappointed this hope.

In light of the preceding considerations, we do not think we are entitled to criticize Egypt in its effort to achieve a peace treaty that will lead to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces to the historic and international borders of Egypt, as well as to the elimination of the Israeli settlements in Sinai, within the framework of general principles for a comprehensive settlement in the region.

We realize that a peaceful settlement is by nature a difficult and hard process. In view of the situation's complications, resulting from four wars in 30 years, it is unreasonable [to expect] to arrive at final and comprehensive solutions for all aspects of the dispute at the same time. It is inevitable, at the beginning, to define landmarks in a framework for comprehensive settlement.

We have observed that the framework for general peace achieved at Camp David contains ambiguities and cloudiness and disregards a substantial number of questions. This means postponement of obvious solutions, leaving them to subsequent stages.

Therefore, achieving a final, comprehensive and just settlement in the region depends on arriving at a just solution of the issues that have so far been overlooked, such as the issue of Jerusalem, and of the issues that have been postponed for subsequent negotiations, such as sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza and the future of the Israeli settlements there, as well as the issues that were formulated vaguely and obscurely, such as the issue of the Palestinian refugees.

If the peace steps are to succeed, these issues should be clarified to persuade the other parties to participate in the process of building peace and reaching a comprehensive and final settlement.

Despite the ambiguity and other shortcomings, which reveal Israeli intransigence, it is noteworthy that the Camp David agreement on the general framework for peaceful settlement provides that the negotiations should be based on all the provisions and principles of Security Council Resolution 242. This means that any solution that might result from the negotiations should recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements as the two basic foundations for any peaceful and comprehensive settlement in the region. This is what Israel has always blatantly denied.

The major share of the responsibility for the resolution of those issues that have been left clouded or ambiguous or were excluded in the text of these important documents, falls on the United States, which accepted the primary responsibility of participating in determining the general principles of the framework for a full and final settlement.

The Sudan once more reiterates its firm and unequivical conviction that Arab solidarity and joint effort constitute an important base for the protection of the vital interests of the Arabs and for building just peace in the area. In conclusion, the people of Sudan undertake to shoulder their full responsibility in this regard.

VICE PRESIDENT BAKR MEETS WITH VANCE

JN191108Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 19 October--Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, the vice president and foreign minister, this morning held a one-hour meeting with Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state. Cyrus Vance stopped at Khartoum airport en route from Pretoria to Geneva.

During their meeting, talks revolved around several African issues, especially those which the U.S. secretary of state discussed in Pretoria. Talks also touched on the Moroccan Sahara and the situation in the Horn of Africa as well as recent developments in the Middle East. They also discussed bilateral relations.

In a statement, Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr said that the U.S. secretary of state has acquainted him with the results of the meetings in Pretoria on the Namibian problem so that At-Tahir Bakr could in turn brief President Numayri, in his capacity as chairman of the current session of the OAU.

At-Tahir Bakr added that he explained to Cyrus Vance the recent efforts of the OAU regarding the problem of the Moroccan Sahara and its decision to form an arbitration committee, headed by President Numayri, to solve this problem.

Vance Departs for Geneva

LD191830Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Mr Cyrus Vance left Khartoum Airport at 0200 [few words indistinct] this morning for Geneva after concluding his 1-hour stopover visit on his way from Pretoria to Geneva. He was welcomed and seen off by Mr ar-Rashid at-Tahir, vice president of the republic and Mr Baha ad-Din Muhammad Idris, minister of presidential affairs; Dr Francis Deng, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry; an under secretary at the Foreign Ministry; the American charge d'affaires in Khartoum; and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

NUMAYRI RECEIVES LEBANESE INTERIOR MINISTER

LD192128Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Text] The president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, has received from his brother Ilyas Sarkis, president of the Republic of Lebanon, a verbal message conveyed to him by the Lebanese interior minister, Dr Salah Salman, during a meeting with his excellency in the latter's office at Friendship Hall at 1100 today.

The message described the latest developments in the internal situation in Lebanon and the admirable contribution made by the Sudanese forces to the Arab Deterrent Forces there. The Lebanese president expressed his gratitude to these forces, now that Sudan has decided to withdraw them.

During the meeting, President Numayri reassured himself as to Lebanon's situation, which is improving gradually, wishing fraternal Lebanon continued stability and development.

The meeting was attended by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir, vice president of the republic and foreign minister.

The Lebanese president's envoy, speaking to SUNA, also praised the resolutions adopted by the conference of the foreign ministers of the Arab states contributing to and financing the Arab Deterrent Forces, which concluded its business yesterday. He said: We do not claim that implementation of these resolutions will be easy, but we are trying, with the assistance of our brothers, to achieve a positive result, so that Lebanon will be able to extricate itself from the painful whirlpool it has been caught in since the beginning of 1975. He added that preserving security in Lebanon or anywhere else is not an easy task while there is widespread possession of arms. He hoped that such arms will be surrendered without the Lebanese authorities having to use force. He said: What we have lived through over long and painful years has taught us that violence does not pay.

The Lebanese minister described the recent clashes between the Lebanese militias and some of the Arab Deterrent Forces as regrettable, saying that the price of these clashes has been paid by innocent people and Lebanon's economy. He added that the conference had discussed these clashes and their causes and arrived at a formula that might be (?effective), if it were implemented in its entirety, to prevent a recurrence.

President Ilyas Sarkis' envoy left Khartoum this afternoon.

Force Withdrawal Confirmed

LD191830Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Text] A high-level source has told SUNA that the president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, informed the envoy of Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis at their meeting yesterday that Sudan's decision to withdraw its units participating in the Arab deterrent force remains valid and that Sudanese forces operating in Lebanon will return to Sudan.

YAR INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM

JN191252Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 19 October--YAR Interior Minister Lt Col Muhsin al-Yusufi said that the recent seditious conspiracy against the YAR was aimed at dragging the country into the whirlpool of foreign conflict and at causing confusion [words indistinct] among the Yemeni people.

The YAR interior minister, who arrived in Khartoum this morning with a message from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to President Numayri, said that his mission deals with Arab solidarity and the joint Yemeni-Sudanese role to support this solidarity. He added that the message explains recent events in the YAR and how the abortive conspiracy was nipped.

NUMAYRI MEETS WITH OAU SECRETARY GENERAL

LD192002Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Summary] President Numayri today received Edem Kodjo, secretary general of the OAU. They talked for over 2 hours. SUNA reported that Kodjo briefed the president, in the latter's capacity as OAU chairman, on the follow-up to the implementation of certain resolutions of last July's OAU summit in Khartoum. Various other African problems were also reviewed.

TUNISIA

SOCIAL DEMOCRAT MESTIRI URGES DEMOCRATIC, SOCIAL REFORMS

LD180745Y Milan L'UNITA in Italian 12 Oct 78 p 16 LD

[Arminio Savioli interview in Tunis with Social Democrats Movement leader Ahmed Mestiri: "Ahmed Mestiri Talks About the Other Tunisia"]

[Text] Tunis--This is an interview with the man whom everybody regards as the natural leader of the opposition: Ahmed Mestiri--lawyer, former Destourian Socialist Party [PSD] Politburo member, former minister of interior, finance, defense and justice (he is the author of the law on the status of women which in 1956 established equality between the two sexes), and former ambassador to Moscow, Cairo and Algiers--all of which are centers of paramount importance for Tunisia. He has founded the Social Democrats' Movement and sought recognition of it by the government.

I pointed out to him that he was for some years a confirmed supporter of the single party. He replied: "I do not deny my past, my share of responsibility. I was--and, historically, still am--a Neo-Destourian, a nationalist like Bourguiba, like Prime Minister Nouira, like Habib Achour, like all Tunisian politicians (or almost all of them, excepting the communists). Now, however, the country has changed, it has grown and is more mature; the single party has become an excessively tight garment which is paralyzing and stifling it."

Some 7 years ago Mestiri was the protagonist in a sensational unsuccessful attempt at democratization--still, however, within the context of the single party. He proposed that the PSD begin a continuous dialectic through broad and free discussions and that the election of leaders at all levels--from the cells to the Central Committee and the Politburo--be really free. The Republic, he said, may indeed remain presidential, but "presidentialism" does not fit in with the party. He won a congress on the basis of this platform. But he paid dearly for it. A sudden intervention from the palace turned the tables.

We discuss the trial against the trade unionists. "We," he said, "were opposed to the trial. It should not have been held. Habib Achour and his comrades are not responsible for the disorder. They did not try to change the nature of the system or to overthrow the government. I myself saw on 24 January, when the first incidents occurred, a trade unionist chasing after boys who were smashing shop windows, and, confronting them, seizing them and reproving them. Furthermore, it is significant that in Sfax, the workers city, where the trade unions are very strong, there was a strike, but without incidents."

Three Causes

"The January massacre had at least three causes: The first and most deep-rooted was the frustration felt by the new generation of unemployed or underemployed people who do not have any future; the second was the end of the alliance between the trade unions and the party which had lasted since 1971; and the third was provocation. Provocation by whom? I do not have any proof. I asked that an independent inquiry be set up. However, the government did not listen to me. The trial was conducted in an extremely irregular way. In view of the sentences requested and the violent press campaign against the accused, the sentences may seem lenient; a maximum sentence of 10 years and some acquittals instead of 30 death sentences. However, the verdict was not worthy of Tunisia."

Some people doubt whether democracy is possible in an underdeveloped Arab or African country. We feel that this view smacks of racism. I asked Mestiri what he thought.

His reply was very clear: "An authentic democracy is possible in Tunisia. The masses have made great progress and their level of political consciousness is not much different from that in other Mediterranean countries such as southern Italy, Greece, Spain and Portugal. We certainly do not want a caricature of democracy with gaping, paralyzing divisions. For that reason, on 23 October 1974, we proposed a "national pact" to all other political forces--an agreement on principles which would establish essential rules governing a peaceful relationship, rejecting violence and allowing free expression and participation to all. But I must stress that Tunisia is mature enough to give freedom of speech to the parties which already exist in embryo or semisecrecy. Apart from our party there is Ben Salah's party, the Communist Party and others. The very fact that we were allowed to publish two opposition newspapers, one in Arabic and the other in French, is a positive step. But freedom of the press should be extended to all political parties. The prime minister has said that the decision on a multiparty system should be dealt with at the next PSD congress which is due to be held in 1979. But is it reasonable that one party should have the right to be the sole judge of whether other parties have the right to exist and if so which ones? No, it is not reasonable. Furthermore, the constitution and the existing electoral law provide for the existence of several parties."

[Question] You are accused of supporting capitalism.

[Answer] That is an unfounded and tendentious accusation. Our party wants democracy, socialism, worker participation in managing enterprises and the fair distribution of profits. We do not want a "revolution from above" imposed bureaucratically by party militias, by the police, as in Ben Salah's compulsory collectivization in 1969. But clearly political reforms must be accompanied by social reforms which will lessen the differences among the classes and move in the direction of greater justice.

The Union

And the failure of Ben Salah's experiment was due precisely to the bureaucratic, authoritarian and antidemocratic nature of the political organization which was meant to carry it out, namely the PSD. Per se, cooperatives are a good thing. It is a matter of seeing how they are built in practice.

[Question] A question on Libya--a very delicate one, which was used against Achour to condemn him. Do you believe in a union between the states?

[Answer] Yes. We believe that the unity of the whole of the Maghreb (the western Arab world) from Morocco to Libya is a correct and feasible objective for the present generation. It is not a utopia. We are starting by degrees: forming a common market, allowing the free circulation of men and goods and synchronizing development plans. It is absurd for each of our four North African states to have separate relations with a united Europe. It is a humiliating fact that a Tunisian can visit Italy without a visa, while he needs one to visit Libya. This does not mean that we in the Social Democrats' Movement are always and entirely in agreement with the Libyan, Algerian or Moroccan regimes. Every Maghreb people has the right to manage its own internal affairs in its own way. But unity can and must be achieved responsibly.

Mestiri declined to talk about relations between the European socialist parties and the Tunisian political forces, either in government or in opposition, in order to avoid unpleasant polemics. We know, however, (we were able to verify this a number of times during several conversations) that within the ranks of the Social Democrats' Movement there is still great indignation over Craxi's attitude. During his visits to Tunis--including the latest one--Craxi met only with leaders of the PSD, carefully avoiding any contact with the other parties, including Mestiri's movement, which regards itself as socialist. Members of the Social Democrats' Movement cannot understand why. They believe that the Italian Socialist Party--like all democratic forces, for that matter--should understand that Tunisia's leaning toward pluralism and a multiparty system matches the interests of the Italian people. The support offered by Craxi for the "heavies" of the present regime seemed incomprehensible and unacceptable to all opposition circles.

WESTERN SAHARA

FOREIGN MINISTER CITES 'UNACCEPTABLE' MAURITANIAN PROPOSALS

LD1711157 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Oct 78 p 8 LD

[P.B. report: "France Can Help Restore Peace, Saharan Foreign Minister States in Paris"]

[Excerpts] Saharan Foreign Minister Hakim Brahim visited Paris this week before going to Abidjan and other African capitals. During a press conference held 12 October Hakim Brahim confirmed that Saharan and Mauritanian leaders had contacts in the French capital 9 through 14 September and he said France's role was evolving in a constructive way. Hakim Brahim issued a further warning to Nouakchott and said his contacts with Mauritanian ministers had been "disappointing." "The Mauritanian Government," he said, "wants to end the war without making peace. It wants to continue to enjoy the POLISARIO's cease-fire but is using it to reorganize and consolidate its army."

Hakim Brahim confirmed that the Mauritanians have made "unacceptable" proposals along the lines of conceding a province or federated state to the Saharans. He forcefully reaffirmed that the Saharan people are acting in accordance with the OAU charter in fighting for their independence and to establish their sovereignty over the whole of West Sahara within the borders inherited from colonization.

Finally, Hakim Brahim accused Morocco of carrying out population transfers, placing Moroccan nationals living north of West Sahara--especially in El Aaiun and Samara--and installing Saharans in their place.

BEGIN APPROVES DAYAN-GHALI AGREEMENT ON TERRITORIES

TA191211Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Oct 78 p 1 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has sent guidlines to the Israeli delegation to the peace talks in Washington which approve proposals to settle the dispute over the connection between the peace agreement with Egypt and the issues of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

According to the proposals to solve the problem, which were raised in a talk between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and acting Egyptian Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali, there will be a general mention of the problem in the preamble to the peace treaty and an exchange of letters between Israel and Egypt on the connection between the agreement and the framework agreement for the establishment of an autonomy in the territories for an interim period of 5 years.

The prime minister sent the guidelines after the cabinet meeting the day before yesterday.

Observers in Jerusalem hope to overcome one of the central problems in the deliberations in Washington. [sentence as published] At the same time there are still certain difficulties on some issues concerning Sinai, such as the exact location of the interim line of withdrawal between Al-'Arish and Ra's Muhammad; the issue of the exploitation of the oil wells drilled by Israel in Sinai and mutual demands for damages. Israel has also raised the need to mention refraining from acts of terror--an issue which, for some reason, was not raised at Camp David--while Egypt has raised the demand to allow a reassessment of the clauses of the peace treaty after 5 years. Deliberations are also taking place on the exact formulation of the clauses dealing with the nature of the peace relations between Israel and Egypt.

It is believed in Jerusalem that neither of these two clauses will cause a crisis in the talks, but lengthy deliberations will be required to settle the differences of opinion and arrive at an agreed, detailed and accurate formula.

It has also been learned that Israel and Egypt have agreed that a dispute over the interpretation of the agreement would be resolved through arbitration.

CARTER UNENTHUSIASTIC ON FINANCING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

TA191100Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Oct 78 p 5 TA

[Editorial: "A Second Front in Washington"]

[Text] During the intensive negotiations at Blair House between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations, the Israeli delegation is being forced to conduct a parallel campaign nearby--in the White House.

In addition to the strategic-security risk that Israel has assumed by returning Sinai to Egyptian sovereignty, including conceding the military airfields, territorial continuity from Elat to Sharm ash-Shaykh and the settlements of the Rafah approaches, the peace treaty will impose a heavy economic burden on Israel which, under no circumstances, will it be able to carry on its own.

Israel has invested several billions in Sinai in developing a road network and various infrastructures. And now, with the new deployment after the withdrawal from Sinai, not only will it have to invest similar sums in the Negev, but its military requirements will change with the loss of "territorial depth" in Sinai, which was one of the components of security.

The reports received this morning from Washington say that President Carter was not over-enthusiastic in responding to all of Israel's economic and security needs, and that the Israeli delegation left the talks in the White House disappointed. It is not yet clear if this coolness encountered by the Israeli delegation is a manifestation of fact--that is, a result of U.S. unwillingness or inability to carry alone the whole economic burden of peace, (since Egypt also expects increased aid in all areas after signing the treaty)--or if the Americans are holding onto the option of making their increased aid dependent on additional concessions by Israel on other fronts, after the concessions that were made to Egypt at Camp David.

The United States played a decisive part in preparing the ground for the Camp David agreements and in bringing Israel and Egypt closer.

And if, in the end, Israel agreed to take very heavy risks for the sake of peace, it did so to no small degree because it believed and believes that the United States would stand by it in time of trouble.

President Carter has repeatedly declared that the elimination of the Middle East conflict is a supreme national interest of the United States. Therefore, Israel has the right to expect that, for the sake of this supreme interest, the United States would assume that part of the economic burden arising from agreements that little Israel cannot carry under any circumstances.

The Israeli delegation will now have to make a firm stand on two fronts in Washington--the Egyptian and the American--to prevent disappointments later on.

MA'ARIV on Carter Position

TA191130Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Oct 78 pp 1, 15 TA

[By 'Iddo Dissentshik]

[Excerpt] U.S. President Jimmy Carter displayed a lack of enthusiasm when he was asked the day before yesterday to help Israel finance the expenses of the peace settlement with Egypt over and above the airfields to be built in the Negev.

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and other Israelis who were present at the meeting with the President at the White House left with an unpleasant feeling over his reaction to the requests made to him. Israeli sources said that from some points of view the talk with the President was more depressing than any of the talks with Egypt.

In the wake of the talk with the President, the Israeli delegation has arrived at several unpleasant conclusions:

--It is not sure whether the United States will finance all the expenses involved in building the two new airfields in the Negev;

--The Carter administration is not anxious to promise any further financial aid which, in Israel's opinion, is most necessary to transfer military installations and build defense lines and new installations in the Negev;

--The Carter administration will probably not help Israel financially to transfer the locations of civilians in the wake of the dismantling of the settlements in Sinai.

In fact, the sources said, President Carter was "hostile" to this request. Even though he did not say so, Israelis believe that he is not prepared to finance any activity arising from what he regards as illegal Israeli activities, such as the establishment of settlements in conquered territory.

A major part of the meeting between the Israelis and Carter was devoted to the issue of additional aid, it has been learned in Washington.

It appears that Israel's negotiators in Washington wish to avoid what is regarded by many as the main mistake of the Camp David talks. Israel did not speak about its financial needs, as did the previous government when the two disengagement agreements in Sinai were achieved.

The criticism of those who conducted the negotiations at Camp David was that they did not insure approval of the procurement list "Matmon C." This time, the Israelis are raising financial issues with the Americans, but the administration is not enthusiastic about responding positively.

One still has to wait and see if the White House's lack of enthusaism is a tactic in the negotations or its real position.

U.S. Position Causes 'Shock'

TA200657Y Jerusalem POST in English 20 Oct 78 p 1 TA

[Text] Officials in Jerusalem received "with shock" the news that the U.S. has made no commitment to provide substantial financial assistance to cover some of the costs of the Sinai pullback and the redeployment of Israeli forces in the Negev.

Though no specific American promises had been made at Camp David to Israel concerning American financial aid over and above the building of two new airfields in the Negev, it had been understood at the time that such aid was not in doubt. It was also understood that the U.S. would shoulder a significant amount of the estimated $2 billion total cost of the move.

Israeli officials have broken down this cost into three basic components:

--The actual cost of dismantling and rebuilding the military infrastructure in Sinai, including new airfields, early warning stations, naval bases, emergency stores, roads and communications networks;

--Compensation to be paid for Israeli investments in the Sinai, both military and civilian, such as roads, settlements, irrigation networks, water pipelines, clinics, schools, port facilities and thousands of kilometers of electric cables;

--Compensation for the loss of oil production at the 'Alma fields (which were drilled and developed by Israel) and from tourism.

Some cabinet ministers in Jerusalem were last night reported to be seriously worried as to whether Israel would be able to "keep to our side of the peace bargain," if U.S. financial support is not forthcoming.

"There seems to be no way that we will be able to handle both our current defense costs and the cost of relocation," a senior economic source in the defense establishment told the Jerusalem POST last night.

This opinion was being echoed both publicly and privately by cabinet ministers last night.

American sources, on the other hand, reiterated last night that at no stage of the Camp David talks had Israel or Egypt received any financial commitment, other than that published; that the U.S. undertook to build two new Israeli airfields in the Negev to compensate for those being given up in the Sinai.

"There was just a general understanding--or rather hope by the parties--that the U.S. would further involve itself financially," the sources continued, "but no commitment was made. None whatsoever."

WASHINGTON TALKS RESUME AFTER WORKING TEAM SESSION

Oil Issue Unresolved

TA191507Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Another official meeting of the three delegations to the peace talks between Israel and Egypt is due to be held at this moment in Blair House. Before that, the working teams of the delegations of Israel and Egypt consulted in the Madison Hotel.

An Israeli source told our envoy that he did not think that the talks would end before the second half of next week. According to that source, over the last 3 days there has been very slow progress and, in fact, they are marking time. Our envoy says that one of the issues not solved is that of the oil. Egypt is refusing to recognize the principle defended in international law, that whoever discovers or develops oil sources has special rights. Because of this, Israel also has special rights regarding the wells in Sinai.

Americans Supporting As-Sadat

TA191800Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] Our envoy in Washington has phoned to tell us that the meeting in Blair House is continuing and, in the meantime, Jerusalem is following what is happening in the talks. As always, telephone reports are being received from the Israeli delegation. Let us then return to the political section and hear evaluations of what is happening in the talks from our correspondent Zevi Lidar.

[Lidar] There are difficulties in the talks and it appears that since yesterday there has been very little progress. The Egyptians, according to a senior source who is closely following the deliberations here in Jerusalem, are not keeping their word and our delegation is not giving way to pressures. President Carter is applying pressure. The U.S. position is clearly inclined toward President as-Sadat. We have to make things easier for him, they say, and so they are stepping into the Egyptians' shoes and demanding that we make concessions. For example, in the dispute over the validity of the peace treaty with Egypt: Israel wants this treaty to be valid forever; the Egyptians want it to be possible to revise the treaty after 5 years. This position is not acceptable to Israel. The compromise proposal, that the treaty will include a clause saying that it will be possible to change the treaty according to what has been agreed upon by both sides, is not acceptable to the cabinet, and it has been rejected. This is one example of the stubborn negotiations being held in Blair House.

And in the meantime Harold Saunders, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, is due to arrive here tomorrow. There is already a full report in Jerusalem on the replies Saunders brought to King Husayn; President Carter's replies to the Jordanian king's 14 questions touching on the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. These replies, so they are saying here in Jerusalem, fit in with the well-known U.S. positions of the Brookings plan, and they are not acceptable to Israel. Saunders will meet tomorrow, at noon, at his request, with Prime Minister Menahem Begin. This will be his only meeting with official Jerusalem, and it may be assumed that he will hear from the prime minister the Israeli position, which rejects the U.S. positions on the status of Jerusalem and the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip after the 5 years of autonomy.

Compromise Apparently Reached

TA191943Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] The cabinet will meet tomorrow for an extraordinary session, the second this week, and it will discuss the reports reaching it from the negotiations in Washington. Governmental circles told our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, that it appears that Egypt is no longer standing by its proposal that the peace treaty with Israel will be reexamined after 5 years. Our political correspondent says that complicated problems of the negotiations will be solved by mentioning them in the introduction to the agreement and in letters that will be exchanged between the sides and attached to the peace treaty. It is the evaluation in Jerusalem that the talks will not end next week either, but an effort will be made to end them by 19 November, the anniversary of President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

CABINET TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF PEACE

TA191256Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] The cabinet will meet in a special session tomorrow and it may discuss, among other things, the economic implications entailed in the peace with Egypt. It was reported this morning that the government will soon send an envoy to Washington with conclusions of the director general's committee dealing with those issues, so that the economic subject would be included in the negotiations.

There was a demand in the cabinet to send the finance minister to Washington rather than a senior official from the Treasury.

Western sources in Cairo reported this morning that Egypt rejects a discussion of economic issues before the peace treaty is signed because it fears strong criticism in the Arab world. It has been learned that the United States is interested in fostering joint Egyptian-Israeli projects and that it is also willing to allot generous aid for this purpose.

Weizman, Dayan Recall Possible

TA192038Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Here is a report which reached the editorial desk a few minutes ago: Our correspondent 'Amiram Nir has learned that the cabinet may discuss, in its session tomorrow, a proposal to recall both the ministers of foreign affairs and defense or one of them to Israel for consultations immediately after the Sukkot holiday. Several ministers think that a first-hand report should be brought to the cabinet on the main points of dispute in the negotiations and also to authorize Israel's representatives at the talks to make decisions on these issues.

LIKUD MEMBERS CALL FOR FIRM STAND IN NEGOTIATIONS

TA200922Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 20 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Knesset members of the Likud have called upon the government not to yield to the pressures being applied on it in the Blair House talks. MK Avraham Katz, who is regarded as a dove in the Liberal faction of the Likud, said that he would not vote to approve the agreements achieved in Washington if Israel continues to make concessions.

Likud faction chairman MK Avraham Sharir, who is also a member of the Liberal Party, believes that Egypt's desire to establish a legation in Israel and not an embassy, and its demand for a revision of the peace treaty after 5 years are warning signs regarding the sincerity of Egypt's intentions. He said that the Knesset members who had voted in favor of the Camp David agreements would not vote to approve the Blair House agreements if further concessions are made.

NO CONFIRMATION IN ISRAEL OF ALLEGED OIL DEAL WITH EGYPT

TA191251Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] There is no confirmation in Israel of the report that Egypt agreed to sell oil to Israel from its wells in Sinai after the IDF withdrawal is completed. Our correspondent Yosi Melman says that the Energy Ministry has no information on an Egyptian consent on this issue. Our correspondent adds that the date has not yet been set for the departure of Israeli oil experts to take part in the Washington talks, and even their departure is not certain yet.

The report about Egypt's willingness to sell Israel oil in the future was carried by the Washington POST this morning. It said that an agreement in principle on the subject was reached secretly at the Camp David summit. The paper claims that Israel is striving to obtain an Arab oil supply option in advance and is exerting pressure on Egypt to supply the oil under preferential terms.

JERUSALEM VIEWS CARTER REPLIES TO HUSAYN AS 'VERY GRAVE'

TA200654Y Jerusalem POST in English 20 Oct 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[Text] "Very grave" was the description given in Jerusalem last night to America's replies to the 15 questions on the future of the West Bank and Jerusalem posed by King Husayn of Jordan. The content of the replies was transmitted to Israel yesterday, in advance of Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders' visit here today to discuss them with Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Saunders has spent much of this week in Jordan and Saudi Arabia, conveying the American replies to King Husayn and to the Riyadh government.

Israel views the replies pertaining to both the West Bank and East Jerusalem as "grave." The fundamental divergences of U.S. policy from that of Israel on both these issues were, of course, well known, and had recently been reemphasized in statements by President Jimmy Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. But King Husayn's queries appear to have elicited a comprehensive formulation of the American position, which was a more severe impact than isolated statements on particular aspects.

Adding to the "gravity" is the fact that the American replies will be construed as the U.S. interpretation of the Camp David "Framework for Peace" agreement, elucidating many of the ambivalent points in that agreement in a way sharply different from Israel's interpretation of them.

Highly placed sources said they hoped and believed that the American replies, which are expected to be made public imminently, would not have an adverse effect on the peace talks in Washington--despite their inevitable highlighting of differences between Israel and the U.S.

On the contrary, the sources argued, the prospect of tough negotiations ahead over the West Bank should prompt the parties at Washington to wrap up the Israel-Egypt treaty as speedily as possible, before getting embroiled in the West Bank issues. This consideration is expected to move the U.S. administration to redouble its exertions of pressure upon the two protagonists to yield the compromises necessary to conclude the treaty.

Officials from the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem and the embassy in Tel Aviv have been trying to persuade West Bank and Gaza Strip leaders to meet Saunders. The assistant secretary of state wanted to meet Palestinian leaders in Amman as well, but only 15 of the notables invited to meet him chose to do so.

The recently-allowed political meetings of West Bank and Gaza Strip leaders have been seen as an attempt by supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization to stop notables from meeting Saunders and even discussing the American interpretation of the Camp David accords and the autonomy plan they imply.

The first such meeting of its kind in Gaza is due to be held this afternoon. It is as yet unclear how many West Bank and Gaza leaders will be persuaded to meet Saunders, since several of the pro-Jordanian notables have also expressed their disagreement with the Camp David accords and what they mean for the Palestinians.

But government officials say they still view with favor Saunders' attempt to drum up support for the autonomy scheme. The displeasure which used to be registered here each time U.S. officials held political contacts with West Bank Palestinians appears to have dissipated.

"After all," as one official explained, "we want the autonomy to work, and if the Americans can help it work--so much the better."

PERES ON DIFFICULTIES IN NEGOTIATIONS, NEW BUREAU MEMBERS

TA1917O4Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] The chairman of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres, said that in the negotiations over Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip unimaginable difficulties are to be expected. At a meeting of the Labor Party Bureau, MK Peres said that the Likud had exhausted its credibility and now neither Jew nor non-Jew is prepared to accept his [Begin's] fixed positions any longer because he had gone back on all his 'no's.'

On another matter: The Labor Party Bureau has incorporated three new members: Hayyim Herzog, Ya'aqov Levinson and Gid'on Ben-Yisra'el. The last takes the place of the president of the state, Yizhaq Navon, who resigned on his election as president. The Bureau has also left a place for another member, Motta Gur, when he is released from the IDF.

HOROWITZ TO URGE LA'AM TO LEAVE CABINET, NOT COALITION

TA191131Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] MK Yig'al Horowitz said he would propose that his colleagues in La'am leave the cabinet, but not the coalition. At a press conference in Tel Aviv, MK Horowitz said that at this stage he had no intention of revoking his resignation from the cabinet, unless it becomes clear that the Camp David agreements will not be implemented.

He added that he had made a great effort to agree with a concession in Sinai, assuming that Judaea and Samaria remain in our hands, but now he fears that we will neither have our cake nor eat it.

Mr Horowitz expressed hope that the prime minister would sober up, as he put it, after he realizes that there is strong pressure on Israel to withdraw from Judaea and Samaria. In the view of the former minister of industry, trade and tourism, the only explanation for Mr Begin's position is that the prime minister believes in his ability to bring about peace, and this outweighs all the risks. However, Mr Horowitz thinks that Mr Begin's considerations are erroneous.

La'am Reaction

TA191559Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Oct 78 TA

[Text] The chairman of the La'am Knesset faction, Yig'al Kohen, has rejected the recommendation by the former minister of industry and commerce, Yiga'el Horowitz, to his colleagues in that faction, to resign from the cabinet but remain in the coalition. MK Yig'al Kohen told our correspondent that, in his view, the La'am faction will have to draw conclusions and resign from both the cabinet and the coalition only if there is erosion in the cabinet's position on Judaea and Samaria. Another test for the cabinet, in Yig'al Kohen's view, is its plans for broad settlement in Judaea and Samaria at the end of the 3 month freeze.

WEIZMAN POSTPONES PLAN TO REORGANIZE IDF

TA200721Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 20 Oct 78 p 1 TA

[Text] The defense minister, Mr 'Ezer Weizman, has decided to postpone indefinitely reserve Maj Gen Yisra'el Tal's organizational plan for the IDF, explaining that in view of the agreement with Egypt and the great withdrawal expected in Sinai, the army cannot now deploy for major structural changes.

Major General Tal submitted his proposal after he had been appointed by the defense minister in August 1977 to make a study and submit a broad plan for IDF organization looking toward the 1980's. After his plan had been submitted, a series of deliberations were held in the General Staff headquarters, and the National Security College was also brought into the deliberations at a certain stage.

The chief of staff, Lt Gen Rafa'el Eytan, has not publicly expressed any opinion.

Now, with the defense minister's decision, it appears that Tal's proposals will be shelved, at least for the next few years. The minister of defense explained to his confidantes that he did not intend to make any major changes in the structure of the IDF while the army is occupied with withdrawing from Sinai. Therefore, no major change in structure or organization is to be considered for at least the next 3 years.

Zippori Denies Report

TA200722Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori has said that so far there have been no final deliberations on Maj Gen Yisra'el Tal's plan to change the structure of the IDF. The deliberations will take place when Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman returns from Washington. Zippori was reacting to a report published by HA'AREZ that the defense minister had decided to postpone the plan indefinitely in the wake of the expected agreement with Egypt and the IDF's withdrawal from Sinai.

HA'AREZ COMMENTARY ON ROLE OF IDF AFTER CAMP DAVID

TA201059Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 20 Oct 78 p 13 TA

[A. Schweitzer commentary: "The IDF After Camp David"]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman owes thanks to reserves Maj Gen Mati Peled: The latter has begun to think about what the Camp David agreements require of the IDF. Mr Weizman is stuck in his political occupations, while the official military establishment appears to be adhering to views of yesterday and the day before. At any rate, the first reactions of this establishment to the political changes prove that it is in urgent need of help in thinking.

Dr Peled says that it is not necessary to duplicate the IDF fortifications or even all its installations (apart from the airfields) from Sinai to the Negev. Rigidly adhering to firm defense lines has never suited the IDF (what broke the Bar-Lev line in the Yom Kippur War strengthening this view) and its special talents; how much more does this apply now, when the Sinai Peninsula is being demilitarized by an international agreement. In Peled's view it is this fact that is the basis for the conclusions on logistic deployment--meaning the emergency depot units--as well as those on the size of the enlisted forces. In conclusion, Dr Peled sees the possibility of a significant decrease in the defense budget, which is the end result of the IDF's new deployment.

Dr Peled's article, which was published a week ago, is a first step in the process of rethinking what is required of the IDF in the wake of the Camp David agreements and what it needs to fulfill its duties. Peled's analysis and his conclusions touch mainly on the changes in the territory and what springs from them, with regard to the size of the forces and their deployment. However, an analysis and conclusions may also be needed on the composition of the fighting force and its equipment. In the final analysis, there is a need for thought on the IDF's combat theory: How it will defend the country when its borders are closer to the major population centers and the economy, with the present state of military technology which gave it a hold on the area?

Since the Yom Kippur War the IDF has tried to answer the weaknesses revealed by a quantitative increase in the numbers of enlisted men, planes, tanks, artillery (including missiles). But the relative allocation of the enormous financial resources that this growth requires have mainly remained unchanged. The result is that the IDF is now better prepared than it was in 1973 for a war waged on that model. But with the new deployment in the field, the nature of the war is also likely to change and, as a result of this, the organization of the forces and its equipment must change, too. The IDF won its wars in the past because it was at least half a step ahead of the enemy in its fighting methods. An extended freeze, given the tangible changes in the field and in technology, may take away its qualitative advantage--the only factor compensating for the quantitative advantage of the other side.

These questions have another dimension of urgency. Israel is already involved in negotiations with the United States over the IDF's needs for the coming years. Even if the Americans show a maximum of good will and even if the people of Israel are prepared to continue to bear its heavy security burden--there is a limit to the material resources that can be released to train the IDF for its missions in the future. From this it follows that any security outlay must be charged against an alternative security outlay. The question of optimum use of resources is always important, and this is even more applicable when the conditions that the security resources are expected to face are due to change radically.

What will be the size of the security budget in the future and what will be its share of the resources of the economy? [paragraph continues]

How much money will he be able to get from the Americans and which sets of weapons will we be asked to procure in return? How will the IDF deploy for action in the new military geographical setup created after the Camp David agreements--and additional agreements, since other ones will obviously be coming? These questions demand replies now, since any decision needs many years to implement. The time now being wasted on postponing decisions and continuing the routine will be missed much more when that day comes.

The demand to digest the changes in geography and technology and their translation into organization, equipping, deployment and a new method of fighting comes first for the IDF. But there is reason to think, according to the current command and the personal history of its outstanding members, that it is better in using its recruits than in simplistic conceptual thinking and in forecasting the future political circumstances under which the IDF may be asked to fulfill missions of deterrence and perhaps also of battle. Therefore, it is worthwhile for the minister of defense to have a general staff that will, within a few months, present him with an outline for the organization of the IDF, its equipping and deployment and also that will formulate the principles of combat theory for the era after the Camp David agreements. The staffing of such a general staff is not likely to be a problem: Yizhaq Rabin, Yisra'el Tal, Mati Peled and Binyamin Peled are natural candidates to serve in such a general staff; and there are obviously others as well.

It must be said, to avoid misunderstandings, that the reference here is not to a permanent body or to removing authority from the IDF command. The general staff will be a tool for the minister of defense, and it will be dispersed at the end of the specific task that is suggested here. It is the minister who will receive its program, he who will show it to the command for criticism and he who will decide on implementing it while using the channels accepted in the IDF. We are speaking here of an immediate need, when it is doubtful whether the present establishment, which is already overloaded, will be able to reply satisfactorily. Luckily there are those who can reinforce it. And it would be a bad mistake, with bad results in the long term if, for reasons which are not practical, Mr Weizman does not take advantage of the talents at hand--to bring the IDF into the new era, when he himself has brought the news of the entry into the era.

WORK STOPPED ON 'EZYON AIRFIELD PASSENGER TERMINAL

TA201113Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Oct 78 p 2 TA

[By Eli Danon]

[Text] The director general of the Airfields Authority, Dr Rimon Har'el, told MA-ARIV yesterday that his office had decided to stop work on developing and establishing a passenger terminal in the military airfield 'Ezyon (west of Elat) where civil aircraft on direct charter flights from Europe are landing.

"We will not invest funds in 'Ezyon until the picture is clearer and we know the future of the place," Mr Har'el commented. According to him, over the last few weeks the authority has invested one half million Israeli pounds in preparing a temporary passenge terminal for tourists in 'Ezyon.

Even before the Camp David agreements it was decided, with the agreement of the former minister of transport, Me'ir 'Amit, and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, to invest 40 million Israeli pounds in 'Ezyon in the final planning for the terminal and in adapting the airfield to absorb civil aircraft.

Also if, in the wake of the peace treaty, no planes will be permitted to land at 'Ezyon, the Airfields Authority will begin implementing plans to build a new airfield in ('Ein 'Evronah), 10 km north of Elat, at a cost of about 600 million Israeli pounds.

SENATE PRESIDENT PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR ANTICORRUPTION DRIVE

LD191510Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Joint reply of the Majlis and the Senate to the Shah's 6 October speech from the throne, delivered by Senate President Sajjadi in 19 October audience with the Shah--recorded]

[Text] Your Majesty, the presidiums of the Majlis and the Senate, on their own behalf and on behalf of all representatives, thank you, Your Imperial Majesty Mohammad Reza Shah Aryamehr the shahanshah of Iran and Her Imperial Majesty the dear Shahbanu Farah, for your inauguration of the joint sessions of the Majlis and the Senate and the legislative term of 1978-79, and hold the memory of this occasion dear. The representatives of the two houses fully endorse the shanahshan arymahehr's inaugural speech, the content of which clarifies the principles of our country's national, social, economic, defense and foreign policies. Your majesty's reference to developments during the previous term, which resulted from the implementation of the policy of extending democratic freedoms and of creating a more open political atmosphere in the country, is something that the representatives of the two houses have focused their particular attention on and something that they fully endorse and support.

Obviously, the Iranian people's social maturity is at such a level that it can itself be the greatest safeguard and guarantee of the developments which our country needs in its initial steps toward achieving the freedoms enshrined in the constitution. Of course, the Iranian nation, with insight, awareness and full cognizance of its historic responsibility, will guard these freedoms and so achieve the set objectives and strengthen national unity. On the other hand, the Iranian nation will fiercely fight any concept aimed at exploiting these freedoms to bring about weakness in the foundations of national unity or at using them against the country's territorial integrity.

Mistakes, excesses and abuses which in the past have been instrumental in creating discontent, and which the shahanshah arymehr alluded to, are something on which the representatives of the two houses have focused their particular attention. The two houses expect, in view of the importance of the issue, that a determined campaign against any form of corruption and any form of violation of public rights and funds be continued most vigorously, and concluded in a persistent and all-embracing manner. There is no doubt that a relentless campaign against corruption will go a long way to make up for the past mistakes and excesses and to make the Iranian people, who sincerely want deficiencies and corruption eliminated, happy and hopeful in a tangible way. The representative of the two houses declare their full support for any action taken in the campaign against corruption and the corrupt. They are ready, in fulfilling their national dutes, to pass any legislation that could more quickly and better assist the judiciary fulfill this critical task.

As the shahanshah aryamehr has noted, the Majlis representatives are fully aware of their decisive responsibility in terms of safeguarding the provisions of the constitution with attention to the principle of the separation of powers in accordance with Principles 26, 27 and 28 of the supplement to the constitution. They will do their best and most diligently to exercise their supervision over proper implementation of laws in accordance with their duty, the Iranian people's wishes and their oath. They will exercise complete vigilance and attention to preserve the foundations of the monarchy, the rights of the Iranian people and the limits of the three powers, namely, the executive, the legislative and the judicial, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.

The shahanshah's remarks about strengthening moral foundations and following noble Islamic principles and practices, which have been the greatest guidance and inspiration for the Iranian people throughout their Islamic history, have provided an opportunity for the representatives of the two houses to reaffirm their firm belief in preserving the respect due to religious principles and practices and in respecting and honoring the status of men of religion. The representatives of the two houses are trying, along with the Iranian people and this mighty religious power, to march forward toward national unity and solidarity.

The point the shahanshah aryamehr noted with regard to preventing waste and extravagance in the use of funds and in preparing social and economic programs goes a long way to resolving many of the difficulties. Unfortunately, in the past this did not receive due attention from officials. The representatives of the two houses believe that not only should full attention be devoted to these important considerations in the country's future planning but should also vigorously prosecute and severely punish officials who are guilty of neglect and deficiencies in this regard and, if necessary through legislation, reclaim whatever part of public rights and funds that have been violated or squandered.

The remarks the shahanshah aryamehr made with regard to industrial development, exploiting mining resources, education and training, health and medical care, housing, and particularly agriculture, encouraging public participation in social services and the necessary measures in connection with the country's infrastructural development and construction, are all something that the representatives support. The two houses hope that in order to secure social justice, the burden of unjust taxes will be lifted from the shoulders of lower-income groups and imposed on those who can afford them and who have so far escaped them; that price rises, particularly prices of necessities, be prevented through careful planning and that a vigorous campaign be waged against any abuses which were practiced in the past under economic protection measures, in accord with the Iranian people's specific wishes in this regard.

The representatives of the two houses endorse and support the country's defense policy, preserving internal security, strengthening the country's defense forces to safeguard the country's independence and to preserve peace in the region and the world, and the country's independent national policy with regard to mutual respect.

The representatives of the two houses expect the government, fully appreciating its responsibilities before the two houses, to bear in mind its critical tasks and fulfill them, and thus win the Iranian people's trust and confidence and soothe and calm the public which is currently extremely anxious over the country's situation. Obviously, the representatives of the two houses, similarly appreciating their responsibilities, will fulfill the duties they have to the Iranian people. Wishing the shahanshah aryamehr health and the Iranian people happiness, the Majlis and the Senate declare to your majesty they are ready to commence parliamentary business.

Shah Makes Reply Speech

LD191755Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Reply by shah to Senate President Sajjadi's speech at audience granted on 19 October, with interjections by Sajjadi--recorded]

[Text] I do hope that the points raised in the reply prepared by the Majlis and the Senate are implemented. This might be a good opportunity for me to add a few words to my inaugural speech.

To start with, I must point out that any country or nation adheres to certain values in order to protect itself--its independence, its society and identity. It is these factors which enable nations and countries to maintain their national unity, develop their societies and safeguard their interests against foreigners. Obviously, if a great majority of the population of a country were pious and faithful to their religion then they could not possibly go astray, for such a nation observes certain basic moral and humane principles which would preclude such a possibility.

Then there is the question of certain political beliefs which are usually adhered to. Our constitution and its amendments are formulated in such a manner that they are readily accepted by the people. The fact is that our constitution was not written to protect the interests of only a few; it embraces the interests of the country and society and enables the country to be better managed.

The history of our constitution is a long one. In 1905, when the constitution was formulated, we were a weak nation. In 1907 the country was split. The number of literate people in that period was, how many was it?...Then came World War I and the country was occupied. In 1919 the country was at its weakest and it was totally surrendered to others.

In any case, when I took my oath of allegiance to the constitution the country was under occupation by foreign forces. What immediately comes to mind is the question as to why the country's capital city should be occupied. Either it was because of our own defense forces or because of a great international alliance which was superior to our defensive powers. In our case, obviously it was a little of each, but definitely more of the second factor.

Again, I look at that period and the number of literate individuals. Now we turn to the time around 1953. Let us make a comparison of the democratic order of that period, when we still had big landlords, tribes, various centers of power as well as elements working directly against our democratic order, and by democratic order I mean every individual being responsible for his own vote. There is no doubt that the right to vote must be properly observed. However, this needs organization and this is why the need for organization is pointed out by everyone. That is why it is said that parties are necessary to enlighten and guide people. That is why we need newspapers--unbiased newspapers--television discussions, so that different views can be expressed and then people are able to draw their own conclusions. When it is only the government establishment which is the sole voice and the people have no other source to listen to, then it is no good. On the other hand, when there is only one source of opinion on the other side of the fence, that is no good either.

Then we come to 1962. The revolution we launched at this time was necessary to save Iran from a certain threat. For, during this postwar period, considering the balance and division of powers, if a country were to remain backward, socially, economically, on a national scale, the world situation then would not have allowed it to survive independently. Consequently, we had to stage a revolution.

The most important outcome of this revolution was the liberation of the Iranian peasant, who lived like a sheep. There were of course other principles in the revolution of which you are aware; first there were only six principles and then more were added. Though I have said several times that, apart from a few principles which hand over our natural resources to the people and so they cannot be exploited by individuals, other principles of the revolution can be changed, I say again that should anyone raise any objection to these other principles, I will be the first to say: All right, improve them or amend them.

This is a very important period in our times: We must take steps to lay the ground with utmost honesty and sincerity so that people are able to cast their votes in total freedom for their candidate during the coming elections. People must not be intimidated by any side. Now why have I reached this conclusion?

Let me speak to you very plainly. In September 1941, suddenly a great influence and power was transferred from one individual to another. What we must do is to render this transfer of power legitimate. To do that, obviously all the articles and principles of the constitution must be observed in full. The rights and authority of the head of state are identified and made clear in the constitution and its amendments, and the same thing applies to the legislative and judicial powers. What is most clear is that it is said that monarchy is a divine gift. However, it is entrusted to the shah by the people. Therefore, one must never forget this, that though it is a divine gift, nevertheless it is entrusted to the shah by the people. When the people become more literate, as they have now--for more than 50 percent of our population is now literate and this figure will hopefully increase even more in the future--then obviously they must assert their rights. The first of these rights is elections, through which the people's representatives in the Majlis supervise the accurate implementation of the constitution.

It is my national, moral and divine duty--considering that monarchy is a divine gift--to (?fulfill this). I do believe that this is how things ought to be run. Obviously, I do hope that we can accomplish this without individuals and groups wanting to harm the country's independence, integrity, society and interests. Otherwise, every single Iranian will have to play a different role.

They say we should let the country go. Why? In whose interest? What would happen if we let go? I referred to shortcomings and the fight against corruption. These constitute a permanent policy of ours; there is no doubt about that. However, what about thousands of constructive acts? Should we let those go down the drain as well? No, we must expand them and correct them. Otherwise how are we to feed the population of this country, which is on the increase? If we fail to invest in industry, agriculture and national activities, then tomorrow, when in 4 to 6 years time the population's rate of growth will be 1 million annually, how are we to provide employment in the labor market for these people? Are we to have a million starving people each year? Is this possible? Right now 50 percent of the population is under 15 [words indistinct]. If we do not find jobs for these people, then how can we make use of them, in what labor market?

Therefore, not only have I taken the oath, but you have done so as well. We have a national duty. Only when there is a country left are all these positive things possible--the constitution, democracy, the government of the people by the people.

[Sajjadi] Your Majesty, I believe that a great majority of Iranians believe in the constitution and its amendments. Consequently, Your Majesty's remarks are fully supported by all, must be implemented and are accepted by all.

[Shah] God willing. It is then that Iran will become a stable and permanent country, where work and affairs are automatically transferred from one to another. It is then that we will not be faced with--what shall we call it--the unexpected for which we are not prepared.

[Sajjadi] Your Majesty, I would like to make a request. Since deputies take the oath of office once elected, I was wondering whether cabinet ministers and other officials, including governors-general, might also take the necessary oath.

[Shah] I think this is a good idea. However, I believe the government has already taken some steps in this direction. The Council of Ministers has already taken the oath of allegiance. The point is that even in the most advanced countries in Europe and the West, any important job requires the taking of an oath by its incumbent.

In any case, I wish success for all the ladies and gentlemen during this Majlis session. This is a very sensitive period. Iranians must recognize the (?real) problems of their country. They must not think that the country's life is compressed into today and tomorrow. We have a 1,000-year history, and I hope our future history will be an indefinite one. Our thoughts should focus on what should be done to achieve this. Meanwhile, I hope our hearts grow closer together. I hope that our first priority will remain the survival of the country, for it is only then that opportunities will become abundant for everyone to exercise his talent.

JUSTICE MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELEASING POLITICAL PRISONERS

LD191144Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent today, Justice Minister Bahari said: As has already been announced, a large group of political prisoners will be released soon. The justice minister stressed that in our open political atmosphere we shall have no political prisoners in the future. Only those engaged in terrorist and anti-state activities will remain in jail. The justice minister said all political prisoners who will be released will enjoy all available social rights and that measures are envisaged to compensate them for their social and employment privations.

182 ARRESTED ON SECURITY CHARGES RELEASED DURING WEEK

LD181756Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 18 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The responsible authorities today announced that 182 of those who were arrested and imprisoned on security violation charges have been released during the current week.

POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS REPORTED IN THREE CITIES

In Gorgan, Zahedan

LD190924Y Tehran PARS in English 0712 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 18 Oct, PANA (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--Over 2,000 people demonstrated and shouted slogans in the streets of Gorgan today and gathered at [name indistinct] square to listen to a religious orator and [words indistinct]. There were no clashes between the demonstrators and the police.

Also today a number of students from [word indistinct] university and teachers' training college demonstrated in Zahedan, but were dispersed by the police. The demonstration resulted in the closure of all kindergartens and schools in Zahedan.

New Demonstrations in Qom

LD191138Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] After a short spell of calm the city of Qom has once again witnessed scattered demonstrations. According to our correspondent's report from Qom, a group of people staged demonstrations on Eram Street in front of the entrance of the holy shrine of Hajrat Ma'sumeh at 1230 today. When the security forces arrived the demonstrators went into the Gozar-e Khan passage. The security forces then proceeded to disperse the demonstrators. The report says that 3 nights ago demonstrations were held inside the shrine for half an hour.

CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION DENIES STAFF ON STRIKE

LD190926Y Tehran PARS in English 0714 GMT 19 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 18 Oct, PANA (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--The Civil Aviation Organisation today denied a report that the staff of the organisation were on strike. The report was printed in the afternoon newspapers on Tuesday.

BANGLADESH

NEW PETROLEUM MINISTER SWORN IN BY PRESIDENT

BK191552Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Oct 78 BK

[Text] Lt Col Retired (Ashgar Hussain) was sworn in as a member of the President's Council of Ministers at the Banga Bhavan this evening. President Ziaur Rahman administered the oath of office to the new minister, who will hold the charge of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The vice president, Mr Justice A. Sattar, and some of the cabinet ministers were present at the swearing in ceremony.

Earlier, Mr Enayatullah Khan resigned from the president's council of ministers and the president accepted his resignation.

INDIA

VAJPAYEE BRIEFS PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE ON UPCOMING PRC TRIP

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[Text] The external affairs minister has assured the Parliamentary Consultative Committee for his ministry that he would discuss with the Chinese leaders all issues, including the boundary question, in a free and frank manner. The meeting in New Delhi today was dominated by Mr Vajpayee's coming visit to China and the prospects of Sino-Indian relations. He is leaving for Peking on the 30th of this month.

An overwhelming majority of the members who took part in the prolonged discussions were in favor of India's positive response to the Chinese Government's invitation to Mr Vajpayee to visit that country. Even those who had misgivings and advocated caution generally agreed that the visit should be utilized for a frank discussion with the Chinese on all issues. Many of them wanted that care should be taken to insure that India's relations with here trusted friends are not harmed while efforts are made to improve ties with China.

Mr Vajpayee assured them that India's traditional friendships would not be allowed to be adversely affected.

Some members identified a number of issues which bedevil Sino-Indian relations. Among these were mentioned China's support to Pakistan on the so-called question of Kashmir, its support to insurgents in the northeastern border regions of India, nonacceptance by China of Sikkim's accession to India and the construction of the Karakoram Highway. Members, however, welcomed the cooperation that has developed between the two countries in culture, trade, sports, health and other areas and suggested its further expansion.

About the Camp David agreement on West Asia, Mr Vajpayee clarified that India had not welcomed the Camp David results and he reiterated the government's well-known stand on the framework of solution in the region.

Members acclaimed the election of Mr M.A. Vellodi, secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, as the chairman of the Disarmament Commission set up by the UN General Assembly session last May.

AFP: JANATA LEADERS SUGGEST VAJPAYEE POSTPONE PRC VISIT

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[Text] New Delhi, 19 Oct (AFP)--Two prominent leaders of the ruling Janata Party today urged the government not to accept any solution which restricted the border as it existed at the time of independence. Rabi Ray, one of the general secretaries of the party and Former Health Minister Raj Narain who were addressing a meeting here said that Sino-Indian border as it existed in 1947 could only be the solution to the border [word indistinct] between India and China.

The two leaders said that in 1947 the Indian border extended up to Tibet. They demanded that China should free Tibet from its domination and recognise it as a sovereign state. Tibet before it was annexed by China was a buffer state between India and China, they added. Mr Ray even suggested that Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee should postpone his forthcoming visit to China because the time to visit that country was not yet opportune.

Desai on PRC Relations

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[Excerpts] The prime minister has declared that gold auctions will have to be stopped because the government does not have limitless stocks of the metal. Mr Morarji Desai, who was addressing a news conference at the Ahmedabad airport before leaving for Bhuj, pointed out that gold auctions were intended to curb inflation and to meet the needs of the economy.

Replying to a question on Sino-Indian relations, the prime minister declared that the stand taken by the Parliament on the vacating of Indian territory by China should not come in the way of improving relations with that country. Mr Desai said the Chinese Goverment had expressed its desire to strengthen relations with India. We are following it up; as a matter of fact, it was the former Indian Government which had started the reconciliation process by restoring diplomatic relations with China.

PAKISTAN

AFP: BHUTTO APPEALS TO WALDHEIM OVER PRISON CONDITIONS

BK201136Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1112 GMT 20 Oct 78 BK

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Oct 20 (AFP)--Former Pakistan Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto wrote to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to complain of mistreatment he said he has suffered as a prisoner in the death cell at Rawalpindi jail, informed sources said here today.

But according to Mr Bhutto, the letter written at the end of September was never passed on to Mr Waldheim by authorities at Rawalpindi prison where the former premier is waiting for the results of an appeal against the death sentence he received from the Lahore high court on a murder conspiracy charge. Mr Bhutto compalined of "physical and mental tortures". Mr Bhutto said he had vomited blood on three occasions, lost about 20 kgs (44 lbs) in weight since the beginning of his detention but that he had not been allowed to receive the necessary treatment. "I am in genuine need of urgent treatment in a proper clinic", Mr Bhutto wrote in a letter to the prison director.